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A
TREATISE
ON THE
DISCIPLINE
OF
LIGHT CAVALRY.

WITH ANNEXED PLATES.

BY CAPT. L. NEVILLE,
OF THE 13TH REGIMENT OF LIGHT DRAGOONS.

L O N D O N:

PRINTED FOR T. EGERTON, AT THE MILITARY LIBRARY,
NEAR WHITEHALL.

MDCCXCVI.

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THEATRE

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OF THE 1ST BATTALION OF THE 1ST REGIMENT

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MADEIRA STREET, LONDON.

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partial military reader will acknowledge that

THE following little Military Treatise is re-
spectfully offered to the inspection of the officers
of cavalry, and 'tis hoped will be honoured with
their approbation.

The system of training and forming recruits
and young horses, is founded on the practice of
cavalry corps of the line, conspicuous for their
appearance, horsemanship, and discipline.

The horse drill on a plan, simple, concise,
and easily explained and understood.

The manœuvres upon new and improved
principles, and are performed on fixed and
pre-determined points, conformable to those
adopted by general officers, eminent for their
extensive and intimate knowledge in the essen-
tial branches of the cavalry service, and as ana-
logous as the nature of the two services will
admit of to those so admirably and scientifically
laid down for the infantry by Lieut. General
Dundas.

The horse evolutions, so called, and the manual and platoon exercise, are so generally known, that the author conceives it would only be superfluous, and tend unnecessarily to swell the work to insert them. Conciseness has been his aim, and he flatters himself that the impartial military reader will acknowledge that no extraneous matter has been introduced in the following sheets. The number of manœuvres may by some be thought too great; but to prevent the price of the publication from becoming high, explanatory plates are annexed only to those most generally in use, and confined chiefly to the changes of front, by the operations of open and close column.

Twenty-one years in his Majesty's Service in the cavalry, a considerable portion of that time on foreign service, the greater part of the whole period in the active departments of adjutant and riding-master, and an attentive application to the several duties of the profession, will 'tis hoped, give the author some degree of credit for his pretensions to a tolerable share of knowledge in the essential practice, adopted in training and forming corps of Light Cavalry.

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P L A N

FOR THE FORMATION OF A

CORPS OF LIGHT CAVALRY;

Comprised under the following Heads, viz.

FOOT DRILL, RIDING SCHOOL,		HORSE DRILL, MANOEUVRE.
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P A R T I.

R E C R U I T.

THE size of men proper for a corps of light dragoons should be from five feet five inches to five feet eight inches, but on no account exceed the latter size. Light dragoons should be straight, well made, and active; a recruit's age should not exceed twenty, nor be under sixteen years. The best description of men for recruiting light cavalry is, country lads, brought up about farm houses; they are in general sober, healthy, accustomed to the care of horses, and easily taught to ride.

Size.

Make.

Age.

Men proper for recruits.

On a recruit joining the regiment, he ought to be immediately provided with the complement of necessaries, and fitted with his regimental cloathing, to be settled with for his bounty money; and

Necessaries
Clothing.
Bounty.

Dress.

the balance, after deducting for necessaries, to be paid him. A few days may be allowed him before he is sent to drill; but in this interval, the non-commissioned officer of his squad should shew him how to dress himself in a soldier-like manner, and to keep his regimentals and appointments in good order. No coloured clothes should be suffered to remain in his possession, on any account, for reasons too obvious to require mentioning.

FOOT DRILL.

Character
of good
Drills.

WHEN the recruit is ordered to drill, he should be put into the hands of a careful, able, non-commissioned officer. Nothing is more conducive to the discipline of a regiment, than having a number of non-commissioned officers, who are expert drills.—They should be sober, eminently good-tempered, and understand the method of teaching perfectly; they should be capable of distinguishing want of capacity from inattention, or idleness. Some men take up their exercise rapidly, while others require a considerable time; nor is it unfrequent that the latter, in the end, turn out the most expert soldiers: the frequent use of the cane at exercise should be prohibited; additional drill hours will be found a more salutary punishment.

Position of
the recruit
without
arms.

The recruit should first be made to stand in the military position, his heels close, and in a line; toes turned out, knees well braced, a little bend in the middle of the body, shoulders back, head gracefully up, and arms hanging down, with the flat of the hands on the outside of the thighs; but
by

by no means kept too long in this attitude, as it is rather tiresome at first.

He is next to be taught to march at ordinary and quick time; the former not less than seventy-two, the latter one hundred and twenty steps in a minute; length of pace thirty inches, and frequent intervals of rest may be allowed: drill twice a day will be sufficient; the morning should be employed in setting up, facing and marching, the evening in a walking drill. This last does not seem in general to stand in that degree of estimation, or meet with the attention it most certainly deserves, as nothing is more essential to the appearance and air of the dragoon. The men should frequently pass by the person who conducts the drill, at an easy, unconstrained pace, their arms moving, heads properly up, and walk with a firm, lengthy step: they should next salute him, as they pass to both hands, if on the left, they must salute with the right hand, and vice versa; and always look full in the face of the person saluted, with a proper soldier-like confidence: this will soon divest them of their awkward rustic gait and manner, and perfect them in the graceful walk, and military air, so conspicuous and becoming, in the disciplined soldier.

Times of
March.

Morning
Drill.

Walking
Drill
essentially
useful.

P A R T II.

RIDING SCHOOL.

THE recruit being brought into the riding-school, and a steady quiet horse ready for the purpose, he is taught to mount as follows:

Position of
man and
horse
before
mounting.

Prepare to
mount.

Method of
mounting
till seated
in the
saddle.

The horse must be placed standing even on all fours, the man facing the same way, his right hand grasping the rein of the snaffle bridle, near to, but not pressed against the horse's neck; heels together, and in a line with the horse's fore feet. On the word of command, he faces to the horse on the left heel, takes up the end of the reins with the fore finger and thumb of the right hand, introduces the little finger of the left hand betwixt the reins, draws up the reins so as to shorten them properly with the right hand, resting the left on the horse's neck, throws the reins to the off side with the right hand, grasps a handful of the mane with the right hand, and puts it into the left, seizes the upper part of the near stirrup with the right hand, and puts in the left foot as far as the ball of the great toe, right arm hanging down by the right side.

He seizes the off part of the cantle of the saddle with the right hand, hops lightly, and raises himself erect, and standing for a moment in the stirrup, with his heels close together, raises his right leg and thigh, and passes them over the horse's croup, shifting the right hand from the cantle to the pommel of the saddle; the weight of the body being supported by that hand, till the man is lightly seated in the centre of the saddle; the hand to be loosed from

from the horse's mane, bridle reins adjusted, and right hand hanging down behind the right thigh.

The dragoon should be seated exactly in the centre of the saddle, not too much on his twist or fork, nor too much back; the head gracefully up, shoulders square and well back, the body rather inclining back than forward; left elbow hanging directly under the left shoulder, and touching the side; bridle hand about four inches from the body, and the height of the elbow; wrist rounded, and knuckles turned in; thighs well turned to the saddle; legs hanging with their own weight, and lightly touching the horse's sides.

Position of
the man on
horseback.

THE LONGE.

THE recruit being mounted, and placed in position, a cavesson should be put on the horse, the teacher holding the end of the longe, and the horse walked a few turns to the right, then be brought up to the centre of the circle; a few turns more to the left, attending very minutely to the position of the rider.

Walking
lesson.

After a few lessons as above, the horse may be put into a gentle trot, for three or four turns to the right, the inside rein the shortest, and the rider's body leaning to the inside of the circle; then brought up to the centre of the circle, the teacher explaining to the man where he had done well, and where he might have done better. A like number of turns to the left, explaining and directing as before: the lesson may finish by reining the horse back, that is by raising up his head, pulling the bridle stronger than usual, but with a lively feel,

Trotting
lesson.

and the rider keeping his body well back; when sufficiently back, *halt*: compleat the lesson by bringing up the horse to the place from which he was first reined back.

Galloping
lesson.

When the recruit is practised in the trot, and firm on his horse, let him proceed to a gallop. The horse must lead with the inside leg before and behind, and the rider should be taught to know when his horse goes *false*, without looking down at his legs. Practice and attention will soon enable him to do this; as when a horse gallops false, or dis-united, his motion is always rough and unpleasant to his rider. As the horse increases his pace, the rider's body must lean proportionally more back, and to the inside of the circle; his legs must be kept steady, and not work against the horse's sides, and the spurs by no means to be used, unless there is an absolute necessity for it, in which case it will be pointed out by the teacher.

Necessity
of a light
lively hand
on horse-
back.

The teacher cannot too often inculcate the propriety and necessity of a *light lively hand* on horse-back. To this end, when a recruit begins to ride with a snaffle bridle, he should be taught to play the bit in the horse's mouth, and constantly to feel and ease him; this not only lightens the man's *hand*, but preserves and often restores the sensibility of a horse's mouth, rendered callous by hard pulling and bad riding. When he comes to ride with a bit and curb, his horse should not be allowed to move five yards at any pace, without relaxing his reins, and feeling the horse's mouth again. This should be done by the movement of the wrist of the bridle hand only; the arm from the wrist to the shoulder being at all times, and in all paces, to be kept perfectly steady, the elbow touching the side, and not to move or be influenced by the horse's motion.

THE SQUARE.

WHERE there is no riding-house convenient, the following mode of lesson, on an oblong square, in the open field, will answer fully as well.

Let four poles, rather longer than those of camp colours, with a flag of linen, eighteen inches square at the top of each, and shod with pointed irons at the bottom, be put down, so as to form a square of fifty yards long, by twenty-five broad. When the man has had his lesson in the longe, let him be sent to the square, where a properly qualified person should attend to give him the following lesson.

Let him bring his horse into the center of the square (the cavesson previously taken off) and place himself in the described position on horseback, his stirrups properly fitted; that is, when his legs hang with their own weight, the bar on which the foot rests should hang as low as the inside of the man's ankle; reins properly taken up and divided, and bridle hand and arm properly placed. On the word march, he moves his horse forward at a walk, and when arrived on the line between two camp colours, turns his horse to the right, moves on, walks one turn of the whole square, and when come to the middle of the next longest side *double*, that is, cutting the square in two, and going on again to the same hand; when past the next shortest side, and about five yards advanced on the long side, *change*, that is, cross the square on a diagonal line to within five yards of the opposite corner; and when on the new line to the left, shorten the inside rein, go on to the left one turn, *double* and *change* as before, trot two turns, *double*, *change*, gallop two turns, *double*, *change*, trot, walk, halt, rein back,

Riding
poles and
flags.

Riding
square.
Plate I.
Fig. 1.

Length of
stirrups.

Walk.

Double.
Plate I.
Fig. 1.

Change.
Plate I.
Fig. 1.

Trot.
Gallop.
Rein back.

at three several times, making a short halt between each, and move up again to the original ground. The whole of the above to be performed in the same manner by four or six recruits, at three or four horse's length interval between each.

The above lesson, with proper attention to the hand, seat, and position of the rider, and frequent repetitions, will prepare him for the horse drill in a very short time, if he has a tolerable capacity.

Riding Lesson for a Regiment.

Six squares
necessary
for riding a
regiment.

Plate I.
Fig. 1.
and 2.

LET a square with camp-colours, and of the same dimensions as in Plate No. I. be laid down for each troop, on the same line, and about twenty yards interval, one from another—A person properly qualified should be appointed to superintend each square. The flags of each troop should be distinguished by the letter of the troop being marked on them.

The regiment drawn up in line, each troop opposite to, and about twenty yards distant from, its proper square—twelve, sixteen, or any number of men the commanding officer may think proper, to be sent to each square; or if the troops are not very strong, each may be told off into lessons, two of the front rank, and two of the rear.—The teacher will then put them through the following lesson:

Figures &
regulations
to be ob-
served in a
riding les-
son.

The number of men appointed for the lesson move forward in a rank entire by the right, and when advanced to the middle of the square—from the right to the right file, with a horse's length interval between each; walk one turn to the right, double, change: one turn to the left, double, change. Trot to the right two turns, double, change.

change. Two turns more to the left, double, change. Gallop two turns to the right, double, change. Two turns more to the left, double, change. Trot, walk, form to the right in a rank entire: rein back at three several times, halt between each, and move up to former ground. They will then file back to their places, are succeeded by an equal number, and so on till the whole have got their lessons.

Thus, an entire regiment may get a riding lesson under the eye of the commanding officer, with the utmost regularity, and in a short space of time. Particular attention should be paid to the several circumstances of hand, seat, and position: during the lessons the most invincible moderation and good temper from the man towards his horse should be insisted on. Spurs to be very sparingly used; and pulling a dead weight, or jerking at the horses mouths, not to be permitted on any account.

As the above lesson, if properly timed, will not take up more than an hour and a quarter for the whole regiment, it may be practised with advantage on field-days before exercise; and may be varied by one day walking and trotting only, *without* stirrups. The next, walk, trot, and gallop, *with* stirrups: but all lessons in the longe, whether of recruits, or men in a more advanced state of horsemanship, should be without stirrups.

When the troops come to ride with bit and bradoon, each man should be provided with a stick, exactly the length of his sword, which he should carry in the same position as he would his sword: the too frequent use of the bradoon will, by this means, be prevented. A regiment of cavalry cannot be said to be properly disciplined, until the men are able to perform all their manœuvres sword in hand, and manage their horses by the use of the bit reins only.

Observations.

Lessons without & with stirrups.

A stick to be carried instead of a sword in common riding lessons.

Breaking

Breaking in Young Horses.

Treatment
of young
horses.

Moderati-
on towards
them.

Rough ri-
der to be
temperate.

First lessons
in a cavef-
son.

Figure of
the longe.

Walk.

Trot.

Rein back.

GREAT attention is necessary to the treatment of young horses during the time of their breaking. The utmost gentleness should be observed towards them at all times; and though at first they may appear awkward, or even prove restive, patience and great moderation are the most certain means of reforming and improving them. It is therefore an indispensable qualification in a rough rider to be perfectly master of his temper in the riding-school. Severity to the horses should be positively interdicted; and any breach of such order exemplarily punished.

The colt should get his first lessons in an easy cavefson, carefully put on, so as not to press too much on, or hurt his nose; for owing to neglect in this, horses are frequently shy about the head ever after. He should be led round the circle to both hands, the cavefson held short near his head, until he understands the figure; the longe may then be lengthened by degrees till he goes freely round, and the rough rider turns in the centre.

When the colt walks freely round to both hands, he may then be gently pushed into a trot, increasing the pace by degrees, and preventing his galloping as much as possible till he is confirmed in a fair full trot; when he has gone sufficiently round to one hand, he should be called up to the centre of the circle, patted and flattered if he has done well—reined back a few steps, and brought up again. He is then to be put round to the other hand. The same circumstances attended to as before; and finish by reining back and coming up again.

The

The horse being well confirmed in the trot, and going at the utmost rate in that pace, the rough rider suddenly, but gently, raises his head with the longe and puts him into a gallop: a flourish of the long whip may be necessary to animate and assist him, but not to be struck, unless he is too sluggish to go without it: he must not be allowed by any means to *gallop false*, that is, leading with the outside legs before and behind, or *disunited*, that is, leading with the near leg before, and off behind; or the off before, and the near behind. When he has gone a few rounds properly he must be made to fall into a trot; then walk; brought up to the centre, reined back, and brought up again: the same to the other hand, and finish.

Gallop.

False.

Disunion.

Equal lesson to both hands.

Many horses go more freely to one hand than to the other. In this case the horse should have a double lesson to the hand he is awkward at, beginning and ending to that hand.

Lesson for awkward horses.

When the horse is ready in all his paces, and reconciled to the bridle, saddle, &c. he may be mounted gently by a steady rider, and dismounted and mounted again several times before he is moved. His first lessons should be in a snaffle, though he may have been previously longed in a bit and curb. He must be led round the figure in hand, letting out the longe by degrees, till he is familiar with his rider, when he may be gradually pushed into all his paces. In a few days the lesson in the square may immediately succeed to that of the longe. A steady and temperate perseverance in this mode of treatment, will soon render him fit to be put into the ranks.

Backing.

Paces.

Horses are frequently alarmed at objects and sounds, because they expect injury from them—Convince them to the contrary, and they will disregard them; the application of whip and spur should

Sights and sounds.

Shy horses. should be totally prohibited on such occasions. If a horse is shy at, and endeavours to avoid an object, he must not be forced up to it, but passed by it often, approaching nearer at each time, till at length he may be brought close up to it without shewing any symptoms of fear or apprehension.

Pistols to be fired at lessons and feeding.

Pistols should frequently be fired in the riding-school, when the horses are at a walk; beginning with a small charge and gradually increasing to a full one: and also at stables once a day just before feeding with oats. The horses will soon understand it to be the signal for feeding, and will be pleased instead of being frightened at it. Different coloured flags should be waved, and drums beat during the riding lessons.

Flags.
Drums.

General Rules relating to the foregoing.

IT should be generally understood, that art, and not force, succeeds best with all horses, and with all riders.

That every rider must be patient and temperate with his horse; and every teacher eminently so with both.

That it is best to prevent the possibility of restiveness and anger in the horse, by a sufficient preparation of previous lessons; and that both man and horse should be duly prepared before they proceed to a new one.

Lessons should be short and lively, so as not to weary the mind or body of man or horse: they should be finished correctly by patience and perseverance. Let the misunderstood part of a lesson be tried again, and a few steps only being obtained, halt—and dismiss the rider or the horse.

Thus

Thus it will remain on the mind, being the last act.

In the longe a rough rider or teacher cannot instruct properly more than one recruit at a time. In the square six or eight recruits are the most that can be conveniently attended to at a time. Of men in a more advanced state, whose riding is rather intended to preserve, than improve, their horsemanship, sixteen or twenty may ride at once, at a horse's length distance from each other.

RIDING DRILL.

FILING.

Horse-drill.

Number of
men at a
time.Double
open files.Advancing
Retreating.Advance
and retreat
by alter-
nate files.

Open files.

Filing.

Rear rank.

Distance in
filing.

Of ranks.

WHEN a number of recruits are well forwarded in the riding lesson, they may then commence the horse-drill: they should be put six, eight, or ten in a rank, with snaffles, and at double open files, that is a full horse's length between each file; moved forward by right, left, and centre: retreated by turning their horses singly to the right or left about, taking care that the horses turn with an advancing motion, and not be allowed to go back, and men dressing as before; told off by right and left files, and advance and retreat by alternate files. The lesson should always terminate by reining back, and advancing again to the same ground.

When the recruits understand the above tolerably well, their files may be closed to *open files*, or half a horse's length: they may then be taught to file from right and left, to front and rear; and form to right, left, front, or rear: from the centre to the front, and retreat by two's, the files wheeling about outwards; then front, and form. They may afterwards be formed at close files, that is, to touch lightly; form a rear rank, and practise the same at close files, which has been performed before at single files.

The usual distance allowed in filing from close order is half a horse's length; the distance between ranks at close order, a horse's length.

At the word file, every man half turns his horse to the hand to which the filing is ordered, so as to

to be prepared to move off his ground in time. After the word march, every man must, at least, advance his horse one step, before he turns him into file.

WHEELING

IS the next division of drill, and should be practised at first by single ranks of six, eight, or ten mounted men.

In wheeling to the right all eyes go to the left, except the man on the wheeling flank, who looks to his division, in order to prevent opening, or closing during the wheel: each man feels to his right without pressing, and bends his horse to the hand he wheels to. When the quarter-circle is completed, halt, and turn horses heads square. Great care must be taken not to close or press on the horses to either hand: pressure coming from the centre to the wheeling flank should be yielded to a little; but all pressure from the flanks to the centre should be resisted.

Wheeling
to the
right.

Observa-
tions.

The very erroneous direction of the horses' heads on the wheeling flank being turned outwards, on a supposition that it facilitates and gives more room in the wheel, should be exploded, as it has directly the contrary effect; for those horses having their heads turned to the left, whilst they are describing a quarter-circle to the right, must move side-foremost, their legs moving in lines crossing each other, and by taking up double the space allotted to them in the wheel, occasion crowding and disorder in the rest.

Observa-
tions.

In order to wheel correctly, every horse in the rank must be bent to the hand he wheels to, so as
to

Plate I.
Fig. 3.

to describe that portion of a circle ordered. Plate I. describes the wheel of twelve horses, and the exact ground each horse is to go over in a quarter circle.

The following scale for wheeling drill has been found much preferable to the common loose method, being founded on mathematical principles, and is strongly recommended.

Scale for
wheeling
drill.
Plate II.
Fig. 4.

At the end of the field or riding ground let three circles be described from the same central point whose diameters should progressively measure thirty-two, forty-eight, and sixty four yards: let the circumference of each circle, for about nine inches in breadth, be sprinkled with lime, and afterwards well wetted. Let two transverse diameters at right angles be drawn through the three circles, about a foot in breadth, limed and wetted as before. Any number of mounted men, not exceeding thirty two in a line, being placed on one of those semi diameters, may be wheeled to the right—right about, or circle entire, on unerring principles, and the same to the left. When the wheel is to the right, the right hand man of the rank touches the central point, and is on the standing flank: the left hand man is on the wheeling flank, and has the ground he is to go over exactly marked for him, so as to prevent the possibility of opening or closing during the wheel; and troops will be taught to wheel well in this way in less than half the time employed in the common uncertain mode of practice.

Observations.

In damp weather the lines may be refreshed with a little lime once a week; in summer when the weather is dry, once a month will be sufficient.

N. B. Should the Squadron consist of more than forty-two or forty-eight files, wheels of the whole Squadron should be performed, dressing by the centre:

centre: the commanding officer of the squadron is to regulate and give the ground, and at such a pace as the wheeling flank can conveniently conform to.

In all wheelings, the rear rank should cover away well to the wheeling flank, which may be done when wheeling to the right, by every man pressing his right leg well to his horse, still bending him to the hand he wheels to; and *vice versa* to the left. The front rank, wheeling on a standing pivot, has no occasion to conform to this direction; whereas the rear rank is obliged to it, by wheeling on a sliding pivot.

INCLINING.

Directions
for inclin-
ing.

Scale for
inclining.
Plate II.
Fig. 5.

Inclining
at a trot &
gallop.

WHEN well performed, this is a very important movement of cavalry; the most decisive mode of a line gaining an enemy's flank, and by no means so difficult as it is generally supposed, when practised on true principles. The best direction for instruction is on an angle of forty-five with the front, which gains equal ground to front and flank. Suppose then, a division ordered to incline to the right, on the above angle, from a halt. On the word of command *To the right incline*, every man in the rank turns his horse into the direction at the same instant, by turning his head to that hand, and pressing his croup to the left, with the right leg, the centre of the horse's body being considered as a pivot on which he is turned. The right-hand man then takes his point of view in the prolongation of the line on which his horse stands, and on the word *march*, the whole move off the ground at the same instant, dressing to the right. During the incline the horses should move as parallel to each other as when marching to the front.

When the above has been frequently performed to both hands, and is well understood, the rank may proceed to a trot, and even a gallop: the word *front* brings them to their original front. Practice on these principles will soon enable them to move in any degree of obliquity that may be required, and at any pace.

Movements of Ranks by Threes.

CAVALRY movements (whether taking ground to flanks or rear) are performed by this operation with infinitely more facility, celerity, and accuracy than by any other yet discovered. It simplifies manœuvre; enables troops or squadrons to move to the flanks, or rear, in line or column, with as much ease as infantry can by filing; and qualifies close column for taking up any position to its flanks or rear, without in the smallest degree extending its order, or requiring a greater space during its march, than that on which it was originally formed.

Excellent properties of the movement in ranks by threes.

If this can be clearly demonstrated, surely a movement so applicable and essentially useful to cavalry, and which obviates almost the whole of the difficulties which have hitherto embarrassed and retarded its evolutions, will not fail to be generally attended to and adopted.

Essentially useful to cavalry.

The habitual order of cavalry being a horse's length distance between the ranks, and the same between divisions in close column of manœuvre, gives ample scope for the operation of this movement.

Distance between ranks and divisions.

If a line of cavalry formed on an alignment is ordered to take ground to its right and march on that alignment; each rank being previously told off in *ranks by threes*, the left-hand man of each three turns his horse to the right on his fore legs; the centre and right files rein back, pressing their right legs to their horses to bring them square with the left file: and as the threes of the front and rear rank wheel independent of each other,

Taking ground and marching on an alignment in ranks by threes.

the line is now converted to a column to the right, with six horses in front. On the word *march*, the column moves to the right, dressing by the left, and horses kept close up; when sufficiently to the flank, *halt*, and on the word *front*, the left-hand man of each three, front and rear, turns his horse to the left on his fore legs, the centre and right files wheeling up to the left, and dressing by him. The whole will then stand in line with their proper distance of files correctly preserved.

Forming
up.

But when the object is to form column from line, or line from column; then the threes may wheel on the centre file of each. If to the left, he turns his horse to the left on his own ground; the left file reins back, with his left leg to his horse: the right file wheels up to the centre, and the whole move, dressing to the right.

When the
threes may
wheel on
their centre
file.

Retreat.
Passing de-
file.

It is also the best order for a retreat in line, and of passing a defile or bridge in the rear, from both flanks of the line.

Its opera-
tion in close
column.

The operation of this order in close column of cavalry is peculiarly excellent: a horse's length between the ranks, and the same between the divisions, whether composed of squadrons or half-squadrons, will be sufficient for every purpose.

Observa-
tions.

It is necessary to observe, that taking one horse with another, the length of a horse is equal to the breadth or front of three when at close files; and as by the method here proposed, each three can wheel to the flanks or rear on its own ground, without the smallest inconvenience to the others who surround it, it follows, that a close column composed of any number of divisions may form its march to either flanks or rear, without the least extension of its original order or space, in an instant. The words *halt*, *front*, brings it to its original front. If the column has been marching to the rear, and ordered to front, the threes continue their

their wheel to the right about, on the same principle, as wheeling to the right only.

Hitherto the usual way of taking ground to the flanks by an open or close column, has been by filing, which loosened and exposed the troops by drawing them out into a long train of files, took up a great deal of time, and was, besides, extremely inconvenient in forming up again. By the method here proposed, it can be done in less than half the time, in close and perfect order, and the column is formed to its proper front, by a momentary operation.

Observations.

Officers commanding squadrons, half-squadrons, or whatever divisions the column may be composed of, should lead to the flank, dressing by the officer leading the division next the proper front.

Dressing.

The men tell themselves off by ranks of threes, thus;—the right-hand man turns his head to the left, and calls out *right*; the second man *centre*; third man *left*; the fourth man *right*; fifth, *centre*; sixth, *left*, and so on till the whole are told off.

Method of telling off.

It will generally be adviseable for the squadrons to tell themselves off from the centre to both flanks, beginning on the left of the right half-squadron, and on the right of the left.

COUNTER-MARCHING.

UNDER the article of counter-marching, in this place, that which relates to divisions in column only will be explained. The counter-march of a line of cavalry will come more properly under the head of manœuvre.

Three
ways of
counter-
march.

There are three ways of counter-marching an open column of cavalry by divisions; the first is performed thus:

1st way of
counter-
march.

A division, suppose twelve files, is ordered to counter-march: the right half-division, consisting of six files, moves forward the length of its own front and halts: both half-divisions are then to wheel about inwards, that is, the right half-division wheels to the left about—the left half-division to the right about and halt. The right half-division then is ordered to move up, halt, and dress to the left half-division.

When an open column of cavalry, right or left in front, is to be countermarched this way, it should be done by word of command from the officer commanding the whole, thus—*The column will counter-march by divisions, a caution. Right half divisions forward by the left, march. Halt, each half division by its own commander, when it has got to its proper distance. Half divisions, wheel about inwards, march. Halt, each by its own commander, when wheel'd the half circle. Right half divisions move forward by your left, march. Halt, by its own commander, and dress by the left, and then by the proper pivot flank.*

Second

Second Way of Countermarch.

On the column being ordered to countermarch by divisions, the right-hand man of each division, or a serjeant, moves out by the *front*, and places himself on the left of the left rear-rank man of the division, and facing to the rear: the column is then ordered to move forward by the right, except the men placed as above; on the word *March*, the divisions move forward a distance equal to about two thirds of their own front, and then get the word—*From the right of divisions to the rear file*; on which they file, and form up to the men placed as guides for that purpose.

2d way.

Third Way of Countermarch.

The left half divisions go to the right about by ranks of threes and halt; the whole column is then ordered to wheel about inwards by half divisions—Halt; Left half divisions *Front*; on which they come about by ranks of threes. This mode is recommended in preference to the other two.

3d way.

S K I R M I S H I N G.

EXPERT skirmishers are very useful to a corps of cavalry, either to mask manœuvres of the line or column in presence of an enemy, or to cover a retreat. The men for this purpose should be bold, enterprising, and good horsemen; the horses strong, active and well managed. They should be disposed along the front or rear; their

Descrip-
tion of men
and horses
fit for skir-
mishing.

Disposi-
tion of skir-
mishers.

intervals in proportion to their number, told off by alternate files, and be attentive not to open or close too much.

Rules for
skirmish-
ing.

Advanc-
ing.

The line or column advancing, the right files may gallop forward fifty, sixty, or as many yards as will bring them within reach of the enemy, fire carbines or pistols, or both. If the enemy is retreating, the rear (left) files move through the intervals of the right files, fire as the others did, and thus relieve each other as long as it may be necessary. Or it may be expedient for the whole line of skirmishers to advance, and hang on the rear of the retiring enemy, so as to impede their progress as much as possible, till an opportunity offers of attacking them with advantage, or cutting off their retreat.

Retreat-
ing.

In case of repulse, and the line or column of cavalry retreating, the advanced files fire at the pursuing enemy, turn their horses to the left-about, retire, and when passed the rear files about twenty yards, *front*; the others then fire and retire in like manner, and thus continue alternately till ordered to join their squadrons.

Should the retiring corps halt and front, the skirmishers will then advance and retreat alternately on their own ground.

Flankers.

When the flank of a line of march is annoyed by an enemy, skirmishers should be sent out to keep them at a distance; in this case they are generally called flankers: they may also be used with advantage to reconnoitre villages, and also woods or covers near the line of march, where ambuscades might be formed.

Signal to
call in skir-
mishers.

A particular signal of the trumpet or bugle horn should be established to call in skirmishers or flankers.

It will at all times be proper to have two or more small parties formed with drawn swords to support

support the skirmishers, and protect their flanks; the necessity of this will appear obvious, when it is considered the loose order in which they are formed, and that a small body of the enemy's cavalry, by getting on their flank, might do them considerable injury, though so near their own line, and before they could be assisted from it. The parties should follow the skirmishers, about half way between them and the line, and rather out-flank them a little. Should the skirmishers expend their ammunition, those parties will return swords, take up their places, and skirmish; and those who return will form up, strap up their carbines, draw swords, and support the others.

Small supporting parties to protect the flanks of skirmishers,

and skirmish in their turn.

In skirmishing, the front and rear rank men should be inseparably attached; and, on all occasions invariably act, so as to mutually support each other. In arranging the line of skirmishers, it may be considered as a rule, that the rear rank man should be placed on the left of his front rank man, and that both their pieces should never be discharged at the same time; when the front rank man discharges, the rear rank man reserves his fire till the other is loaded, he then fires; and thus alternately.

Front and rear files to be attached, and support each other.

Skirmishers should be very attentive to, and instantly obey, the signal for recalling them, and be previously informed which flank of their respective squadrons they are to come in by.

Advancing

Advancing and Retreating in Line, Charging, &c.

Leading
the line.

Points of
view.
Plate II.
Fig. 6.

Dressing
of the line.

Method of
advancing
well in line.

Necessary
attentions.

NO operation of cavalry requires more attention and regulation than that of advancing and retreating well in line. Whoever leads the line or division, should pay the utmost attention to his *points of view*, and lead the line perpendicular to its own front; two conspicuous points to march on should be taken, and may be interlined by tufts of grass, little hillocks, stones, weeds, or any other small, fixed, objects that may present themselves; he must be totally occupied in leading the division perfectly straight to the front, as the smallest deviation from the perpendicular line in the centre is felt in a multiplied degree at the flanks, and occasions crowding and floating in the whole line.

The line in general dresses to its centre; the men should not be allowed to turn their heads, their eyes only should glance to the centre to keep their drefs. It cannot be too often impressed on their minds, that when moving in line the smallest turn or inclination of their horses to the hand they dress to will certainly cause irregularity and crowding in the line, and the same if turned to the flank, though in a lesser degree. The true method of advancing well in line at any pace is, that every horse in the ranks should move perfectly parallel to that of the leader; the centre man in rear of the leader should cover him exactly, at a full horse's length distance, and not get nearer to him on any account. Should any of the horses fall back, or get a little too forward during the movement, they should be brought into their places again by slow and almost imperceptible degrees; sudden movements of any part of the line, whether quicker

quicker or slower than the pace at which the whole ought to move, occasion a shake, and more or less of disorder.

Another circumstance that is highly essential to the quick movement of cavalry in line, though too frequently overlooked or disregarded, is that of the rear rank most scrupulously observing their distance of a horse's length from the front. To a want of attention in this point, may principally be attributed the frequent irregularities observable in lines of cavalry when at a gallop, and also the greater number of what are called run-away troop horses. By the inattention of the rear rank in getting too close to the front, their horses strike and wound the hind legs of those of the front rank, who naturally make every effort to get out of their painful situation, become ungovernable, and break away out of the line. The writer of these sheets has frequently observed troop horses almost worn out through age and service, who, in a common riding lesson in the square could with the utmost difficulty be forced into a hand gallop, when in line, in the front rank, and advancing quick, from a recollection of past injuries, and the apprehension, or probably infliction of recent ones, burst out of the ranks, and absolutely run away with their riders.

The officers and quarter-masters in the rear, therefore, cannot be too vigilant or attentive to the rear rank keeping their distance and managing their horses properly: any instances of irregularity should be reported and punished.

To the injudicious and intemperate application of spurs also, most of what are called unsteady troop horses owe their character; and it is not the least necessary part of the duty of a riding master to inculcate and enforce a moderate and well-timed use of them.

Necessity
of the rear
rank keep-
ing its pro-
per dis-
tance.

Conse-
quence of
the rear
rank get-
ting too
close.

Run-away
horses.

Attention
of officers
in the rear.

Necessity
of restrict-
ing the fre-
quent use
of spurs.

When

No rein-
ing back
after a halt.

Men's bo-
dies to lean
back con-
siderably at
a halt.

When the line halts from a charge, the centre should keep full up, or rather gain a little ground after the halt, in order to prevent any reining back on the flanks, than which nothing has a worse appearance. On this occasion the men's bodies should lean back more than usual, and the fork, or seat, be pressed close to the centre of the saddle. Rupture is very frequently the consequence of a man's body leaning forward at the moment of a halt.

In advancing in line, three mounted men should be placed in front covering each other, and sixty or a hundred yards asunder, in a perpendicular line to the leader of the line, as points to march on; when the line approaches the first man, he should gallop off, and place himself at the same distance in rear of the other two, and thus alternately as long as the line continues advancing.

Of P A C E S.

Walk.

THE regularity and perfect uniformity of paces in a corps of cavalry are the best possible tests of its discipline and horsemanship; thus, when a walk is ordered, every horse should walk, and no trotting be allowed on any account.

Trot.

But it is the trot that proves more than all the other paces the steadiness and good order of a regiment. There cannot be a more gratifying sight to a military eye than that of a line of cavalry broke into divisions, and moving to take up their ground in open column, the whole without exception at a fair full trot. Too much attention cannot be paid to this important circumstance: the utmost steadiness in the riders should be exacted;

acted; and their being restricted the frequent use of spurs will contribute much to promote this desirable end.

The riding master should observe any horses that are too fond of galloping in the ranks, order them to get their lessons by themselves, with steady horsemen on their backs, and not allow them to be put into squadron again till they are perfect in their paces.

Observations.

PASSAGING.

THIS movement is necessary to cavalry for the purpose of partial regulations of intervals, &c. in line or column, or when only a small space of ground to a flank is required to be taken.

When an order is given to passage, the horse should be turned to the flank, in the same direction as that laid down for *inclining*, and by the same means. If to the right, the man should shorten his right rein so as to keep his horse in the proper direction, and make him look the way he goes; he then carries him on by light lively feels at his mouth with the right rein, and an animated pressure to his left side by the calf of the left leg, but not to be spurred, unless after frequent trials he disobeys the leg. The degrees of *feel* and *pressure* will depend on the spirit and disposition of the horse; and the dragoon should be sufficiently a horseman to perceive and apply only the degree of *aids* from hand and leg his horse requires, before he attempts to passage him: at all events he must command his temper, and not get into a passion with his horse; for as every horse is, or ought to be, properly prepared under the direction of the riding master, before

Directions for passaging.

Aids.

Temperance in the rider necessary.

Best mode
of treating
a horse who
has lost his
temper.

before he is rode in division or squadron; it is nine times out of ten the rider's fault if his horse does not passage properly. Should the horse get out of temper, the best and most prudent way will be to stop him, ease the hand, allow sufficient time for his passion to cool, and then begin again.

To stop a
horse when
passaging.

When the horse has passaged to the right, the space ordered, he must be stopped by quitting the left leg, pressing him strongly with the right, and turning him square to his former front.

Passaging
of ranks
or divi-
sions.

When a rank or division is to passage to the right, on the command—*Passage to the Right*, every horse is to be half turned to the right—*March*; the whole press their left legs to their horses and move at the same instant—*Halt—Front*; the horses to be stopped and turned square as above.

EXERCISE of the SWORD.

The sword
the superior
weapon
used by ca-
valry.

THE sword, being indisputably the most formidable and essentially useful weapon of cavalry, no pains or attention should be spared in training and perfecting the dragoons in the proper and most offensive use of it, in preference to all other arms. The carbine, though of infinitely less importance, is, in general, considered with much more attention, and a very large portion of the soldier's time taken up in learning its use, which might be much more advantageously employed in exercising with the sword on horseback. Indeed, carbine exercise and foot parade seem to have acquired too great an ascendancy in the cavalry, and appear to be the leading features in the discipline of some corps, and horsemanship and field manœuvres to be regarded only as appendages and

The car-
bine much
inferior to
the sword
though in
more gene-
ral estima-
tion.

Carbine
exercise &
foot parade
too preva-
lent in the
cavalry.

and secondary to them. A couple of hours each day, for perhaps three days in the week, are *spared* for the purpose of riding and exercising on horseback; the rest of the time, that is not employed at stables, is devoted solely to carbine exercise and foot parade.

Too much time employed in foot drill.

In all riding lessons, when the men are tolerably well on horseback, they should ride with drawn swords, properly carried and also sloped.

Riding lessons sword in hand.

In manœuvre, regiments should in general do every thing with drawn swords, in order that the men may be habituated to their weight and use.

Manœuvre sword in hand.

The following sword exercise will be found highly useful to cavalry, and should be frequently practised.

A post about four inches diameter, and eight feet high, should be fixed upright in the ground, and a hole, three eighths of an inch in diameter and about four inches deep bored into the top of it; a bag of cloth stuffed with wool, about the size of a man's head, and perforated about two thirds of the ball, the opening about a quarter of an inch in diameter, should be procured, and also a bundle of twigs of soft wood, each twig about a foot long; the upper part of the post for about a foot downwards should be rolled round with old woollen cloth or leather, so that when an awkward fellow strikes, he may not injure his sword. One of the twigs is then inserted into the hole on the top of the post, and the head placed on the twig, so that there be a space of four or five inches between the post and the head.

Mode of exercise with the sword,

The dragoon being placed about sixty yards from the post, with his sword drawn, advances, puts his horse into a gallop, leading with the off leg, pushes him into three quarters speed, and when near the post collects his horse well, seats him on his haunches, makes a half circle round the post

by striking off the head.

to

to the right, keeping his own body well back, and with a back stroke strikes off the head by cutting the twig in two; he then replaces his sword and returns to his rank. A person should be stationed near the post to put up the head again immediately; another dragoon then performs the same course, and so on till every man has had his turn.

A post of this description, with its apparatus, should be provided for each troop.

How to
carry
swords.

Dexterity,
and not
mere force
requisite in
the use of
the sword.

The men should be instructed to carry their swords so, that the edge and their knuckles are exactly on a line, and convinced that art and dexterity in striking will have more effect than the utmost exertion of inactive strength; that what is called the *drawing stroke* requires less strength, and does more execution, than any other; that is, beginning the cut about the middle of the blade, and drawing it from thence to the point. A man by understanding this well, may ride close up to his antagonist and cut him down; whereas a person who has not practised it, by getting close would be unable to employ his sword with any effect.

Another
lesson with
the sword.

Another lesson with the sword, which will also be necessary for the dragoon to practise, is as follows, viz.

A post about six feet high, with one much lighter, and about two feet long, fastened at right angles at the top, should be fixed upright in the ground; the cross stick at top should have a small hook or nail driven in near the end; three rings, whose diameters should be something wider than the breadth of the sword blade, should be provided, one of these rings suspended by a woollen thread about six inches long should be hung on the hook.

The dragoon mounted, sword in hand, placed opposite to, and about the same distance from,
the

the ring, as he was before from the head. He then advances, presses his horse into a canter, leading with the off leg, increases his pace, and when about twenty yards from the ring, points his sword at it, with the edge turned up, his arm extended straight forward, and his body leaning forward also, gallops by the post, leaving it on his right, and endeavours to take the ring on his sword, in which if he succeeds, he raises his sword and arm straight up, and after passing the post about twenty yards, describes a small semicircle to the right, and in returning, as he passes the post, still keeping it on his right, drops the ring at the foot of it. A person should be appointed to replace the ring when taken off.

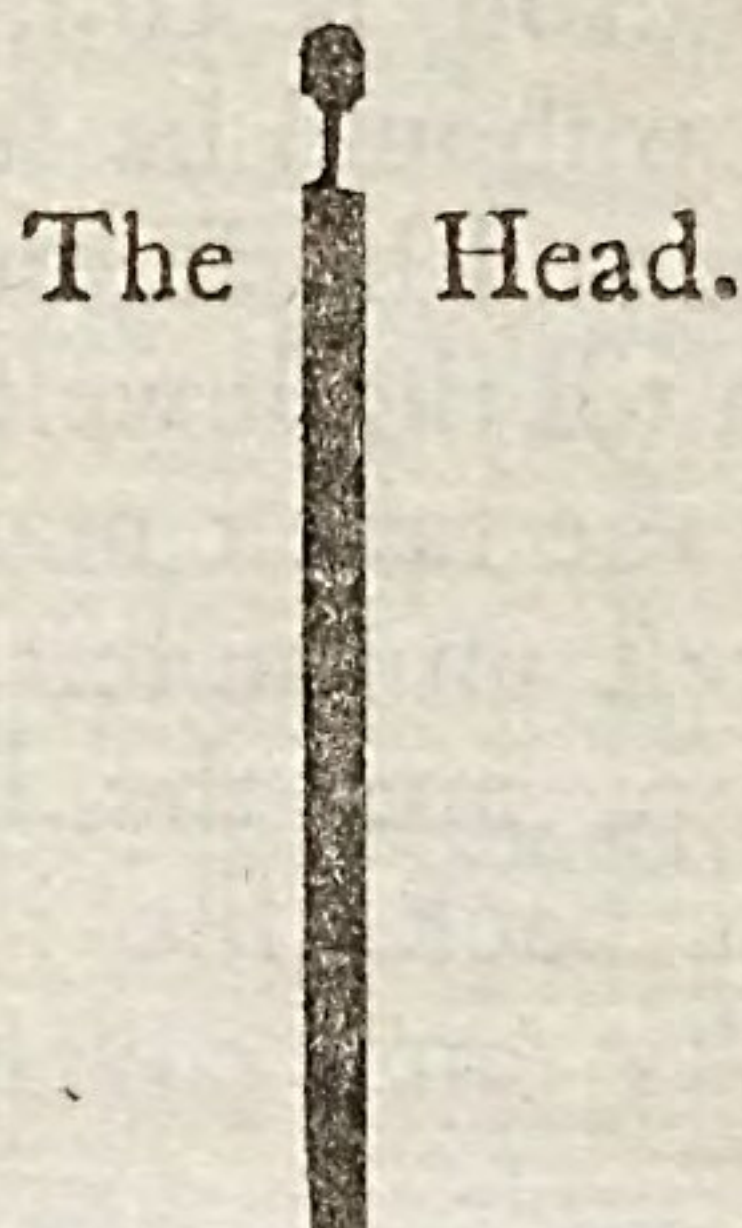
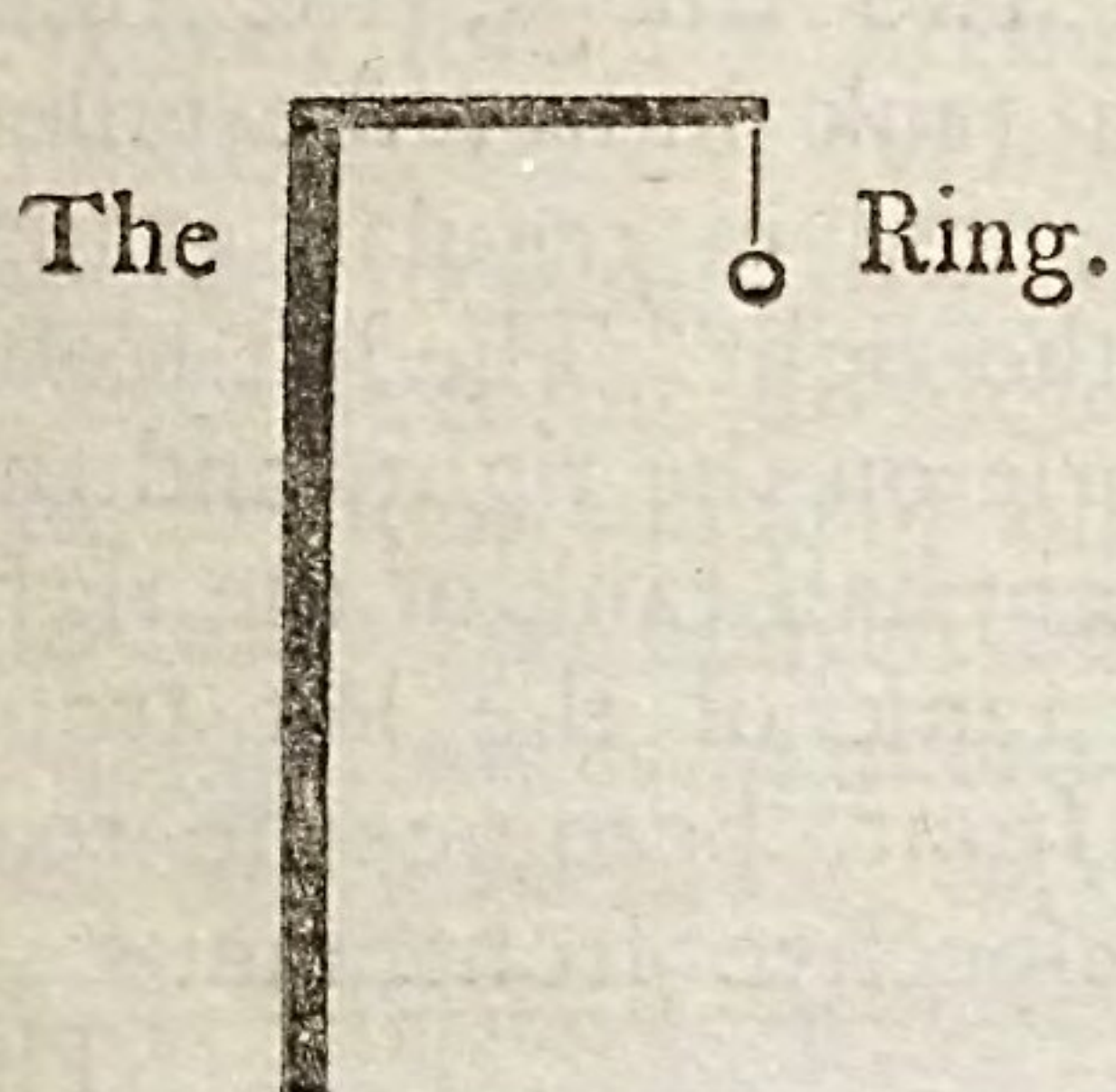
Running
at the ring.

The foregoing exercise, often repeated and properly performed, not only instructs the man in the use of the sword, but confirms him in his seat, and practises him in conducting and managing his horse, by making use of the bit reins only; it is also a most excellent lesson for his horse, by accustoming him to gradations of pace, moving quick and well on his haunches.

Observa-
tions.

In these lessons, as in all others, the men's riding with light lively hands must be particularly attended to and insisted on. If they are allowed to ride with heavy, hard hands, the inevitable consequence to their horses will be callous unmanageable mouths.

Light live-
ly hands to
be insisted
on.



D

MA-

M A N O E U V R E.

Observa-
tions on the
Evolutions

THE evolutions, so called, which usually constitute a part of the review of a regiment of cavalry, are so generally known, that it appears unnecessary to detail them here; they are a very useful lesson for young troops, as they tend to confirm them in wheeling, filing, &c. preparatory to the practice of those movements which it may be proper to adopt when employed on actual service, and in presence of an enemy.

The order
of ranks by
three the
basis of
manœuvre.

The basis of the following manœuvres shall be the movement in ranks by threes, principally.—As it has been hitherto very little known—in theory, to those who are unacquainted with its properties, it may not appear to the best advantage: in practice its superiority must be evident, and carry conviction to every military mind.

Filing.

Divisions may occasionally file, when the ground is very bad; the intelligence of officers will best point out when it becomes necessary; but it should seldom be adopted when the movement in ranks by threes is practicable.

Method of
fizing
troops in
squadron.

It may be necessary to say something of the formation and fizing of troops in squadron; if the squadron is composed of two troops, the right troop should be fized in a rank intire, the tallest man and horse on the left, and in regular gradation till the lowest are on the right. The left troop has the tallest man and horse on the right, and the lowest on the left. The right half rank of the right troop, and the left half rank of the left troop rein back, file inwards, front, become the rear ranks, and cover their respective front ranks.—

The

The two troops close into each other, and thus form the squadron, with the strongest men and horses in the centre, which is evidently proper on account of the severe pressure that part is subject to in all rapid movements of the line.

Thirty-six or forty-eight files compose a manageable squadron, when told off by half squadrons, quarter squadrons, and ranks by threes.

Number of files composing a squadron.

Not more than eight yards interval should ever be allowed between squadrons when manœuvring in line.

Interval between squadrons.

All words of command should be repeated quick and loud, by officers commanding squadrons or divisions.

Words of command.

In all manœuvres of the regiment, whether forming column of divisions from line, or deploying into line from column, *guides* should previously be sent out to mark the exact spot, where each division is to form, and consider as its point of appui; this not only facilitates the movement, but gives it a degree of correctness, which it can never arrive at by the common uncertain mode of formation.—

System of guides.

The pivots of the column cover, and the guides of the divisions in line are dressed accurately, previous to the divisions taking up their ground. In line, particularly, each officer commanding a division, has two fixed points to form on and dress by, viz. his own guide, and that of the succeeding division, and he is not absolutely obliged to depend on, or wait for, the dressing of the division formed up before him. Without those fixed points in forming column from line, or line from column, the succeeding division when it comes up, finds the division which it ought to cover, or dress by, unsteady and undressed itself: the result is obvious; a long time is required to form an indifferent, or perhaps a bad line, or column: in the former case it is performed regularly, rapidly, and correctly.

Observations on the utility of guides in manœuvre.

Men to be
employed
as guides.

The serjeants who cover officers should generally be employed as guides; quarter-masters, all the non-commissioned officers, and some of the most intelligent privates should be often drilled as guides: practice and constantly exercising the eye, will enable them in a short time to judge distances, cover pivots, and take up lines with quickness and precision.

Post of officers in column.

When in column, and the divisions dress, the guides rein back to the rear rank, and commanding officers take their places.

Pivots and dressing.

It is to be generally observed, that in column, when the right is in front, the left pivots cover, and the dressing is to that hand, and the contrary to the left.

Exceptions to the above

There are two exceptions to the foregoing: one when the right is in front of the column, and the line is ordered to be formed to the right, in which case leaders of divisions take post on the right flanks; the other in echelon movements. Whatever flank the echelon is formed from, commanders are posted on the same flank of their respective divisions.

Guides of squadron only necessary in forming line.

When the close column of half squadrons is to deploy into line; the guides of squadrons only need be sent out: indeed, it in general, will be the best way to draw out the left half squadrons by ranks of threes, form squadrons, and then deploy.

Equality of divisions.

The several descriptions of divisions composing a squadron, or line, should, as nearly as possible, consist of a like number of files.

Method of covering and dressing guides in line and column.

The guides should be covered in column and dressed in line by the adjutant, or officer commanding the division of appui; but it will in general be best for the officer commanding the division on which the formation is to be made, to cover,

cover, or dress the guides, whilst the adjutant corrects the intervals.

In the following Manœuvres the regiment is supposed to consist of three squadrons of two troops each, though any number of squadrons may be exercised on the same principles.

To Wheel to the Right into Open Column of Half-Squadrons.

Words of
command.

A Caution—on which the left files of the right half squadrons move out and mark the wheel square with the ground.

By half-squadrons to the right wheel.

The half squadrons wheel to the right, dressing by the left: left half-squadrons parallel to the right, the whole halt, by word of command from their respective leaders.

March.

N. B. The commander of each squadron takes post on the left, or pivot flank of the right half-squadron, the next senior officer on the same flank of the left half squadron.

The Line wheeled into Open Column to the Right, to march on an Alignment.

A Caution—on which three intelligent non-commissioned officers should move out in front; separate about one hundred yards from each other, align themselves on the left pivots of the column, and then rein back till their horses' heads hang over the spot on which their own bodies were before placed; so that the pivots in marching past, will just brush their horse's heads.

The column will march on the alignment by its left.

Column,
march.

A caution.

The column moves forward, dressing by the left: officers commanding divisions on the pivot flanks. The whole care of attending to the dressing, and order of squadrons, now devolves on the supernumerary officers and quarter-masters, as the officers on the pivot flanks are not to attend to any other circumstances during the march on the alignment, than those of covering exactly, and preserving their intervals.

When the column approaches close to the first mounted man placed as a point of view on the alignment; he turns his horse to the left, gallops off in rear of the other two, and places himself beyond them, and on the same line at a hundred yards distance: the second man does the same in turn, and thus as long as the column continues its march.

Column.

A caution.—When the column is to halt; pivots to be well covered, and intervals attended to.

Halt.

The column halts, dressing by the left.

The Column halted, with the Right in Front, to form in Line to the Left.

Wheel into
line to the
left.

A Caution:—on which the right guides of squadrons move out to mark the wheels, and facing to the proper front.

March.

The line is formed by wheels of the quarter-circle to the left.

Officers commanding squadrons dress them to the right. Officers who commanded left half squadrons, after halting them in line, return to their posts in the rear, and leave the dressing of the whole to the officers commanding squadrons, who, when

when they have done, return to their posts in front of their squadrons.

The Line to wheel into Open Column of Half-squadrons to the Left—March on the Alignment—Halt, and wheel up into Line to the Right.

THIS is performed exactly on the same principles as the foregoing, viz.

A caution.

By half-squadrons to the left wheel.

The line wheels by half-squadrons to the left, dressing to the right, and halt by word of command from officers commanding half-squadrons, who dress them to, and place themselves on, the right, or pivot flank.

March.

A caution :

On which the three mounted men are sent out to place themselves as points of view on the alignment, the same as before.

The column will march on the alignment by its right.

A caution :—on which the men prepare themselves to press their legs to their horses, but without using spurs, so as the whole to move off the ground at the same instant.

Column.

The column moves forward by its right ; officers on that flank : mounted men shifting their places to prolong the alignment, as before directed.

March.

A caution before halting.

Column.

The column halts, dressing by the right.

Halt.

A caution :—on which the left guides of squadrons move out, dress with the pivots, and mark the wheels into line : and as the pivots face to the left flank, and the guides to the proper front, the best directions for the latter taking up the line, will

Wheel into line to the right.

be, to bring the pommels of their saddles into the prolongation of the line formed by the pivots of the column.

March.

The line is formed by wheels of the quarter-circle to the right; the divisions halted by their respective commanders, and dressed to the left.

N. B. The words of command from the officer commanding the whole, should be repeated as quick as possible by leaders of divisions.

The mode of repeating the words of command given by the officer commanding the whole, is as follows: Commanding officer, *By half-squadron*; each officer commanding a division, instantly repeats, *by half-squadron*:—Commanding officer, *To the right, wheel*;—Commanders of divisions, *To the right, wheel*:—Commanding officer, *March*; Commanders of divisions, *March*.

Plate III.
Fig. 7.

The Column marching by Half-squadrons right in front, is ordered to form into Line to the Right.

Column.

A Caution.

Halt.

The column halts.

The leading division will wheel to the right.
Right guides.

The leading half-squadron is when wheeled to the right, moved up a little, and halted on the alignment, by word of command from its own officer.

Right guides of squadrons gallop out, take up the line on the right half-squadron, and with their proper interval of six yards, beside their front.

Forwards
the column.

A caution: on which officers commanding half-squadrons take post on the *right* of their divisions and dressing it to that hand, for which purpose as the officer is shifting his post by the rear of his division, he gives the word, *eyes right*.

The

The whole march by the right, except the right half-squadron, which stands fast. When the divisions successively arrive with their right flanks in rear of their respective guides, they get the word of command, *to the right, halt, wheel*, from their respective leaders. When the wheel is completed, *halt, eyes right, march, halt*, and dress by the guides.

March.

N. B. When a division is in motion, and to wheel to the right or left, the word, *halt, wheel*, is to be given. A momentary halt should precede and follow all wheels of this description. If to the right, the right-hand man turns his horse and halts. When the wheel is completed, *halt*, on which the division halts; *march*, they move on together; and the same to the left.

When the column is marching with the left in front, and ordered to form to the left in line, it must be done on the same principles.

The Line to change Front to the Right, on the Right Half-squadron. Plate IV.
Fig. 8.

A Caution:—on which the left-hand men of the right half squadrons move out to mark the squareness of the wheels. By half-squadrons to the right wheel.

The half-squadrons wheel to the right, dressing by the left, and are halted by word of command from their respective commanders.

March.

A caution.

The column will
close.

The whole move together, close to the front division, which stands fast, and halt at a horse's length between

March.

between the divisions, by word of command from their respective leaders.

The column will form squadrons. Left half-squadrons only---ranks by threes, to the left take ground.

A caution.

March.

The left half-squadrons wheel to the left by ranks of threes.

Forward.

They move forward, dressing to the right, and parallel to each other. When they have marched to the flank, a space sufficient to clear them of the standing half squadrons: they get the words *halt, front, right dress*, from their own leaders, on which they dress by the right half-squadrons.

The column will close.

A caution.

March.

The column closes and halts with a horse's length between the squadrons.

The line will form on the leading squadron.

A caution.

Column, except the leading squadron, ranks by threes to the left wheel.

March.

The column wheels by ranks of threes to the left, and halts.

Right guides.

They move out and take up the line at the proper intervals of squadron, dressing by the right squadron,

squadron, the leader of which, or the adjutant, is to see that they are in correct line.

Words of
command.

The whole, except the right squadron, move out straight to the flank; so that when they halt and front, they will be a horse's length retired behind each other from right to left. When the officer commanding a squadron, and who is placed on the right of the leading division of his squadron, approaches close to the ground in rear of his guide, he falls out to the front, lets his squadron pass till the rear file covers the guide; then *halt, front, right dress*; and when steady, moves up the squadron, and dresses it between his own guide and that of the next squadron on his left. The left squadron of the line should dress between its own guide and the point of formation, which should be a mounted man, sent to prolong the line to the left, and correctly dressed by the guides. If the officers dress their squadrons well, the general line being previously accurately marked, must be a good one.

Column,
march.

The foregoing may be performed by the Operation of the open Column only, viz.

Plate IV.
Fig. 9.

A Caution:—on which the left files of half-squadrons mark wheels of the 8th of a circle to the right, except the right half squadron which is marked the quarter-circle to the right.

By half-
squadrons
to the right
half wheel.

The right half-squadron wheels to the right, and halts—all the others wheel 8th of a circle to the right, and halt. The leaders take post on the right of half squadrons, and as they are changing by the rear, they give the words, *eyes right*.

March.

The guides move out at a gentle gallop, and are aligned

Right
guides.

aligned on the right half-squadron at their proper intervals.

The line
will form
on the right
half-squa-
dron.

A caution.

March.

Each division marches by its right, the leader moves on a diagonal line to a point six or eight yards in rear of his guide, where he begins a gradual wheel without halting, by the right staying their horses a little, and the left moving up, so as to bring them square to their proper front; move them up, *halt*, and dress them in line between the guides.

To change Front to the Left, on Left Half-squadron of the Line.

THE foregoing change of front to the right, on right half-squadron, plainly indicates how it should be performed to the left, on left half-squadron, by the combined operations of open and close column, or that of the open column only.

In the first instance: the line wheels to the left into open column of half-squadrons, *halt*: the column is closed to a horse's length between divisions, and then wheeled by ranks of threes to the right, except the left half-squadron, which stands fast—send out left guides; deploy to the right; *halt*, *front*, and dress by the guides.

In the second—the line wheels the eighth of a circle to the left by half-squadrons, and halts, except the left half-squadron which continues its wheel to a quarter-circle, and halts; left guides are sent out and aligned on the left half-squadron, leaders

leaders take post on the left of divisions, and dressing is to that hand; move diagonally, wheel up, halt, and dress by the guides.

All these manœuvres may be performed by squadron, quarter-squadron, or any other section the commanding officer chuses. The half-squadron is generally made choice of here, as the most convenient division to work upon.

To change Front to the Left, on the Right Half-Squadron.

Plate V.
Fig. 10.

A Caution:—on which the left files of half-squadrons move out to mark the half wheels; right half-squadron stands fast.

Except the
right half-
squadron,
by half-
squadrons
to the right
half wheel.

The half-squadrons (except the right) half wheel to the right; halt, and when steady, *right dress*.

March.

The half-squadrons (except the right) wheel to the right by ranks of threes, and halt.

Ranks by
threes to
the right
wheel.
March.

The left guides move out and take up their intervals in open column. The leader of right half-squadron sees that they cover: the adjutant corrects their intervals if necessary.

Left guides
of half-
squadrons
take up
your places
in open co-
lumn in
rear of the
right half-
squadron.

The half-squadrons wheeled to the right by ranks of threes, facing to, and pointing at, their places in column; march to their respective guides; the com-

Half-squa-
drons
March.

commander of each half-squadron leads it, on the left of the leading rank of his division. When the leader of the half-squadron arrives at his guide he halts; sees his division pass in rear of the guide, till the left-hand man covers him: he then instantly gives the words, *halt, front, left, dress*; the guide then reins back to the rear rank, and the officer takes his place.

Wheel into
line to the
left.

A caution:—on which the right files of squadrons only move out to mark the wheels, dressing by the pivots, and fronting to the left of the column.

March.

The line is formed by wheels of the quarter-circle to the left: officers dress their squadrons to the right.

N. B. If the regiment has had sufficient practice, the half-squadrons, in columns of ranks by threes, may move to their places in open column at a brisk trot.

Plate V.
Fig. 11.

To change Front to the Right, on the Left Half-Squadron.

By half-
squadrons
to the left,
half-wheel.

A Caution:—left half-squadron stands fast; right files of all the others mark the half-wheel.

March.

The half-squadrons, except the left, wheel half to the left and *halt*.

Ranks by
threes to
the left
wheel.

A caution.

March.

Except the left half squadron, the whole wheel by ranks of threes to the left, halt; and then each half-squadron will stand in column of six horses in front, and pointing to its place in open column.

They

Words of
command.

They move out and place themselves in open column covering and keeping intervals.

Right
guides.

A caution.

Form open
column.

The half squadrons (except the left) move to their guides; pass them in rear, *halt, front, right, dress*. Guides rein back, and officers take post on the pivot flank.

March.

The pivots having been previously covered, and distances ascertained, the line is formed by wheels of the quarter circle to the right. The commanding officer of the squadron dresses it to the left, and then takes post at the head of his squadron, a horse's length from, and covered by, the centre man.

Wheel into
line to the
right.

N. B. In formations of open column, the rear divisions of the column may open their distances a little in order to trot full out, or by opening them a little more may gallop; but in both cases when they approach near to their guides, they must bring their horses to a moderate trot, and close up, ready to halt, and front, when ordered.

To change Front to the Right, on the Fourth Half-Squadron.

Plate VI.
Fig. 12.

A Caution.

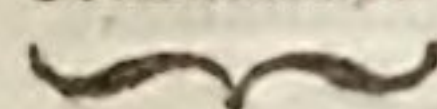
By half-
squadrons
to the right
wheel.

The whole wheel by half-squadrons to the right; halt in open column, and dress by the left.

March.

A caution:—on which the fourth half-squadron sends up its right and left flank files, who place themselves with their horse's heads almost touching the

The line
will form
on the 4th
half-squa-
dron.



the heads of the two flank file horses of the leading half-squadron of the column.

A caution.

Ranks by
threes to
the right
and left
wheel.

March.

The three half-squadrons in front of the fourth wheel by ranks of threes to the right: those in its rear wheel in like manner to the left, and halt.

Right and
left guides.

The left guides of the three half-squadrons in front take up their alignment on the right of the fourth half-squadron. The right guides of half-squadrons in rear of the fourth, take up their alignment on its left; the whole of the guides dressing by the leading division of the column.

March.

The half-squadrons march to their respective flanks; halt, and front. As soon as the fourth half squadron is unmasked by the divisions in its front, it moves up to the ground previously marked by its flank files, and in a line with the guides. The divisions then move up into line, those on the right of the fourth, dressing to the left, those on its left dressing to the right. The leading division of the column, as soon as the guides are dressed, should rein back to quarter distance, to prevent its interfering with the guides, when deploying to the flank.

To change Front to the Rear by the Countermarch of the Line.

By half-
squadrons
to the left
wheel.
March.

A Caution.

The half squadrons wheel to the left, and halt.

Left guides

The guides of half-squadrons move out; that of the right half-squadron places himself on the left of the left half-squadron but one; the other guides

guides successively cover him and take their respective distance of open column, facing the same way the column does.

A caution.

By half-squadrons to the right and left about, wheel outwards.

The quarter squadrons wheel about outwards and halt, except the right half-squadron of the line which stands fast.

March.

A caution.

Counter-march the whole.

The right half-squadron moves forward by its left, and halts at its guide; having been previously unmasked in front by the quarter squadrons of the others wheeling about outwards.

March.

The quarter-squadrons move on at the same time, when the second half-squadron arrives on the flanks of the ground where the right half-squadron originally stood, it wheels about inwards by quarter-squadrons, halts: moves on by its left, and halts and dresses by its guide. All the other half-squadrons do the same in succession, except the left, which passed its own guide, then wheels about inwards by quarter-squadrons, halts and dresses by its guide.

The line is formed by wheels of the quarter-circle to the left, and facing to the rear exactly on the same ground it stood before.

Wheel into line to the left, march.

Another Way of Countermarching the Line.

By half-
squadrons
to the left
wheel.

A Caution.

March.

The whole wheel by half-squadrons to the left and halt.

Column,
except the
leading
half-squa-
drons,
which will
counter-
march,
Ranks by
threes to
the right,
take
ground.

A caution.

March.

Forward.

Halt.

Front.

They wheel by ranks of threes to the right: they move forward instantly, without halting: leaders of half squadrons dressing by the left.— When the half-squadrons have taken ground to the flank, the breadth of their own front. They come to their original front in column, by wheeling by ranks of threes to the left. The left half-squadron, during those operations of the column counter-marches on its ground, by word of command from its own leader.

Right
guides.

They move out and place themselves: the guide of the left half-squadron, on the spot where the left of the right half-squadron originally stood when in column, but facing the opposite way; the other guides take up their places in his rear, and in open column.

Counter-
march the
whole.

A caution.

The left half-squadron moves on by its right, and halts at its guide. All the others when they successively arrive with their left on the line where the left half squadron before stood: *wheel to the left about. Halt. March* by their right, and halt at their guides by words of command from their own officers.

March.

A caution.

Wheel
into line to
the right.
March.

The open column standing with its left in front. The line is formed by wheels of the quarter circle to the right.

N. B. When the line, column, or any part of either, gets the word of command to *wheel* to the right or left, or right or left about, it *halts* after the movement. But when the order is to *take ground* to right, left, or rear, the word *forward* is instantly given, and the body moves on *without halting*.

The open Column marching with its right in front, is ordered to wheel into a new Alignment to the Right. Halted when the third Half-squadron enters it, and is ordered to form oblique Line to the Left.

Plate VI.
Fig. 13.

A Caution.

The three
rear half-
squadrans
of the co-
lumns.
Ranks by
threes to
the left
wheel.

They wheel by ranks of threes to the left, and halt.

March.

Left guides

Of the three rear divisions move out, and place themselves in open column, and covering the left pivots of the three front divisions.

Three rear
divisions,
March.

The three rear divisions wheeled by ranks of threes to the left, march to their guides, *halt, front, left, dress*, by word of command from their respective officers.

Wheel into
line to the
left.

The open column standing right in front with its left pivots covered, and intervals correct: the line is formed by wheels of the quarter circle to the left.

To form double Column of Quarter Squadrons at half Distance on the two Centre Quarter Squadrons of the Line.

Quarter-
squadrons
on the right
and left of
the two
centre,
to the right
and left
half wheel.
March.

A Caution, on which flank files are sent out to mark the half wheels.

The quarter-squadrons of the right wing half wheel to the left; those of the left wing half wheel to the right. The two centre quarter-squadrons stand fast.

Ranks by
threes to
the right
and left
wheel.

A caution.

March.

The quarter-squadrons of the right wing wheel by ranks of threes to the left—those of the left wing to the right. The two centre quarter-squadrons do not move.

A caution.

A caution.

Words of
command.

Quarter-
squadrons
form dou-
ble column
on the cen-
tre.

March.

They march to their places in column. The leader of each quarter-squadron stops when he arrives at the outward flank of his place in column; sees his division pass: *Halt, front: right or left dress.* Guides need not be sent out in quarter-squadrons forming into column at half distance.

The double column is now ready to march to the front. Forms its march to right or left flank or rear. The great excellence of all formations, whether of line or column, by ranks of threes, is, that they can be moved in any direction, or brought to any point, with the utmost facility, and without extension of space.

The Close Column of Half Squadrons formed Right in Front; it is found necessary to take up a Position to the Right of the Front, where the right is to be appuy'd, and on which the Column is to deploy into Line. Plate VII.
Fig. 14.

THIS is done by the close column marching inclining to the right—*fronting*, and moving forward, when in rear of the point of appui—halting on the alignment, and deploying into line by the means already described.

Or; If the position to be taken up is a considerable distance to the right, and but a short way in front, so as not to be conveniently reached by the incline: then, the close column takes ground to its right by ranks of threes—moves straight to the flank, dressing by the left, or front division: halt,

and when it arrives in rear of the point of appui—moves up and halts on the alignement; and the column deploys to the left into line, by ranks of threes on the leading division of the column.

Plate VIII. *To change Front to the Right, on the third Half-Squadron of the Line, by wheeling.*
Fig. 15.

THE third half-squadron is wheeled to the right, and placed in the new position.

Right
squadron.
Ranks by
threes right
about
wheel.

A caution.

March.

The right squadron goes about and halts.

By half-
squadrans
to the right
half wheel.

A caution.

March.

Except the third half-squadron, the whole wheel the eighth of a circle to the right and halt.

Right and
left guides.

The left guides of the right, and the right guides of the left half-squadrans take up their respective places in the new line.

March.

The whole march on diagonal lines to their places, marked by guides, *halt*, and *front*. The two right half-squadrans, when they are aligned, come to the right about by ranks of threes and dress to the left: the half-squadrans on the left of the third half-squadron dress to the right.

To change Front to the Left on the Fourth Half Squadron by wheeling. Plate VIII.

A Caution.

Left squadron, ranks by threes to the right about wheel.

The left squadron goes about by ranks of threes and halts. March.

A caution.

By half-squadrons to the left half wheel

The whole except the fourth half-squadron wheel the eighth of a circle to the left and halt. March.

The left guide of right squadron, and right guide of left squadron move out and place themselves in line with the fourth half-squadron, and at their proper intervals. Right and left guides.

A caution.

Form the line to the left. March.

The half squadrons march on diagonal lines to their respective flanks. When the two left half-squadrons are aligned on their guides they halt—come about by ranks of threes, and dress by the right. The three half-squadrons on the right halt in line, and dress to the left.

N. B. When the line is dressed, on most occasions it will be proper to give the word, *eyes front*.

METHOD OF CHANGING FRONT BY
INVERTED COLUMN.

To change Front to the Right on the third Half Squadron of the Line, by the Operation of Inverted Column.

By half-squadrons to the right and left wheel.

A Caution, on which the half-squadrons are directed to wheel. Those on the right of the third one-eighth of a circle to the left : and those on the left of the third five-eighths of a circle to the right, except the fourth half-squadron, which only wheels the quarter-circle to the right.

March.

The half-squadrons wheel as above directed, and halt.

Ranks by threes to the left wheel.

A caution.

March.

Those on the right of the third half-squadron wheel to the left and point to the rear of the third. Those on the left of it wheel to the left also, and point to the front of the third.

Right and left guides.

The left guides of the three half-squadrons on the left place themselves in front of, and facing to, the right or pivot file of the third half-squadron. The right guides of the two right half-squadrons place themselves in rear of the third, and covering its right file. The fourth half-squadron in front of the third, takes double interval from it.

Form inverted column.

A caution.

The

The half-squadrons move into their respective places, *halt, front*, and dress by their guides.

March.

A caution.

Wheel into
line to the
right and
left.

The three right half-squadrons dress to the right—the three left half-squadrons wheel to the left and halt: the whole dress by the centre.

March.

N. B. The line should be prolonged on both flanks, by mounted men, in all formations on central divisions.

To change Front to the Left on the Fourth Half-Squadron of the Line, by Inverted Column.

A Caution:—the three half-squadrons on the right of the fourth are ordered to wheel five eighths of a circle to the left. The two half-squadrons on its left to wheel only one-eighth to the right—the fourth half squadron to stand fast. Men should be sent out from all the half-squadrons, to mark their respective portions of wheel ordered.

By half-
squadrons
to the right
and left
wheel.

They wheel their respective portions of the circle, and halt.

March.

A caution.

Ranks by
threes, to
the right
wheel.

The whole, except the fourth half-squadron, wheel by ranks of threes and halt.

March,

The right guides of the three half-squadrons on the right of the fourth move out in front and place themselves facing to its left guide, and covering it. The left guides of the two half-squadrons on the left of the fourth move to the rear and cover its left guide

Right and
left guides.

Wheel into
line to the
right and
left.

guide also : the third half squadron guide takes double interval from the fourth, all the other half-squadrons at the usual distance of open column.

A caution.

March.

The line is formed by the three right half-squadrons wheeling the quarter circle to the right : the three left half-squadrons to the left ; the whole dressing to the fourth half-squadron.

N. B. The two foregoing manœuvres performed by the operation of inverted column, will plainly indicate how changes of front may be effected on any other divisions of the line.

Of Charging in Line.

THE charge in line, the most important movement of cavalry, and to which all evolutions and manœuvres are only preparatives, should be performed with all the rapidity possible, consistent with the order and union of the squadrons.

In charging infantry, if the ground is practicable, the line should begin to gallop at three hundred yards distance from the enemy, in order to receive as few fires as possible.

In charging cavalry, when a formidable fire is not to be expected, the line need not begin to gallop till within eighty or one hundred yards of the enemy, in order that the horses may arrive in wind, and full vigour, when they shock with the opposing body.

It cannot be too often repeated, that the effect of the charge depends in a great measure on the
attention

attention and steadiness of the leaders of squadrons. The best troops will crowd, and fall into disorder, if badly led.

When the charge is successful, and the enemy broke, the flank squadrons, half squadrons, or any proportion of the line, that local circumstances may require, should be ordered to disperse, and pursue the fugitives. Firing of carbines and pistols in this case, should not be encouraged, as there is a great deal of time lost in loading on horseback. The sword is by far the best weapon for a horseman on this, and indeed, on most other occasions.

It will generally be adviseable in case of a pursuit, to have a central squadron or division remain formed. This will not only tend to prevent any attempt of the broken enemy at rallying, but will serve as a point, for the pursuers to form to, in case it should be found necessary to recall them,—or, to take charge of any prisoners who may be brought in.

Charging Infantry, Part of the Line thrown into Column.

IT may be necessary to attack a line of infantry, a part of whose right wing is covered in front by difficult ground, on which cavalry cannot act in line.

The line of cavalry advancing perceives this, orders that part of its left which is obstructed by the bad ground, to fall back into open column of quarter-squadrons, on the next quarter-squadron on their right, which keeps its place in line.

The whole is ordered to advance and charge:—the line straight forward; the column wheel successively

cessively by quarter-squadrons, to the left, and charge down the enemy's right flank.

The same mode of attack may be practised against a supposed left flank.

Skirmishers should always precede and cover such manœuvres.

A particular signal of the trumpet or bugle should be established, on the sound of which the whole should come in and form.

Plate IX.
Fig. 17.

Double Column of Attack from the Centre and Enfilading Charge to both Flanks.

A Body of infantry is supposed posted, part of whose right and left wings are secured by obstacles in front, only accessible in the centre, and it is found indispensably necessary to attempt dislodging them.

The regiment formed in line, composed of three squadrons, and marching to the attack, the centre squadron continues its march in front; the flank squadrons slacken their pace, incline inwards, and form two open columns of quarter squadrons, on the right and left quarter squadrons of the centre; the right and left quarter squadrons of the line forming the rear of the columns.

The whole move on to the attack, charge, the centre squadron straight forward, the two columns in its rear, charge by divisions successively to both flanks.

If completely successful, both flank squadrons, and the two flank quarter squadrons of the centre may be sent in pursuit; the centre half squadron remains formed, to be ready for any emergency.

Threatening

*Threatening the Right of a Body of Infantry posted,
and making the Attack on the Left.*

Plate X.
Fig. 19.

IN this case, the corps should move down towards the enemy's right, in close column of squadrons; form into line, and send out a strong party of skirmishers to annoy that flank. This feint may induce the enemy to reinforce the right wing from the left, the point really intended to be attacked. This being supposed accomplished, close column is formed in front of the right half squadron; the column takes ground to the right, by ranks of threes, moves briskly to the flank, and when a sufficient distance, *Halt—Front*; form the line on the leading half squadron, by deploying to the right, and move on to the attack of their left flank.

This may be practised on similar principles in attacking the right flank.

*To Retreat in Open Ground by Alternate Half
Squadrons.*

Plate IX.
Fig. 18.

A Line of cavalry repulsed, and pressed by an enemy, may retreat by alternate half squadrons, thus:

The left half squadrons are ordered to the right about by ranks of threes, retreat fifty, sixty, or an hundred yards, and then front. The right half squadrons then go about in the same manner;
retire,

retire, and when passed the left half squadrons about the same distance, front; and thus continue to retreat by alternate half squadrons as long as may be necessary. Great attention should be paid to intervals; but should they be closed too much, that part of the retiring half squadron obstructed should fall back, double on its right or left, and resume its place in line, as soon as it gets clear of the standing half squadron.

In a retreat of this kind, skirmishers should be reinforced considerably. The manœuvre may conclude by forming the line, calling in the skirmishers, and charging to the front.

To Retreat through a Defile, or over a Bridge.

A Corps of cavalry retreating, and a bridge or defile presenting itself, through which they must pass, the following modes may be adopted:

Whether the corps is retreating in line or column, if the pass is broad enough to admit of six horses marching in front, the whole file from the right of squadrons to the rear, and close to the leading files of the squadron nearest the entrance to the pass; when got through the defile, the column may expand itself, taking distance from the centre squadron, continue its march, or form in line to the rear.

If the pass is only broad enough for four horses in front, the right or left squadron may be ordered to fall back, and follow the centre squadron in column of files; as soon as clear of the defile, the squadron in rear of the centre moves up and takes its place in front.

Or

Or thus:

A line of cavalry drawn up fronting the enemy, and the defile or bridge in its rear, the right and left threes of the line wheel about by ranks, retreat, and close in to each other in the centre, the threes of the rear rank leading to the rear, and followed by their respective front rank threes: the threes of the line successively wheel and follow in column, till the whole are in motion to the rear; they may then move at a brisk trot till clear of the pass, continue the march, or should it become proper to form the line to its proper front, it is performed inconceivably quick:—the column is halted, and brought to the right about by ranks of threes, when the column will stand, with the two centre threes of the line at its head; form up, by the wings extending to their respective flanks, moving up, and dressing by the centre.

In both these cases, there ought to be strong detachments of skirmishers sent out to mask the manœuvres, and prevent the enemy from pressing too much on the retreating corps.

In retreating in full line, should any obstacle interfere with any part of it, that part should fall back, double to the right and left, and follow in rear of the line: their interval in line should be correctly preserved. When the obstacle is passed, they move up into their places again.

The officer in rear of the squadron, which has the obstacle in front, should give the necessary directions for passing it. The officer commanding the squadron, being wholly occupied in leading to the front, cannot attend to any partial regulation of the squadron, during its march.

Plate XI.
Fig. 20.

A Line of Cavalry to take Ground to the Right and Front, by an Echelon Movement.

THE line supposed in presence of an enemy, and it is found necessary to take up a position considerably to the right of the front; and as breaking to the right by divisions is only presenting so many flanks to an enemy, it is ordered to take up its ground by inclining.

But as it is extremely difficult to incline a long line for any great distance, the following mode will be found to obviate many of the inconveniences attending that movement, and accelerate the manœuvre.

The line moves on at a walk, the second half squadron falls back, till it just clears the rear rank of the preceding one: the right half squadron of the centre falls back in like manner, keeping its interval of squadron of six yards from the right squadron, and thus till the whole are in echelon. The whole is then ordered to incline to the right at a trot; the right of each half squadron still keeping the left of the preceding one as its guide; so that the whole incline in this way with as much ease as a single half squadron could, and the crowding and irregularity which frequently happen in inclining a line to right or left avoided. When the right has arrived in rear of the point at which it is to be placed, the word *Front* is given—*Form the Line*, which is done immediately, by moving up and dressing by the right half squadron.

THE END.

Riding Squares.

Plate 1.

Fig. 1

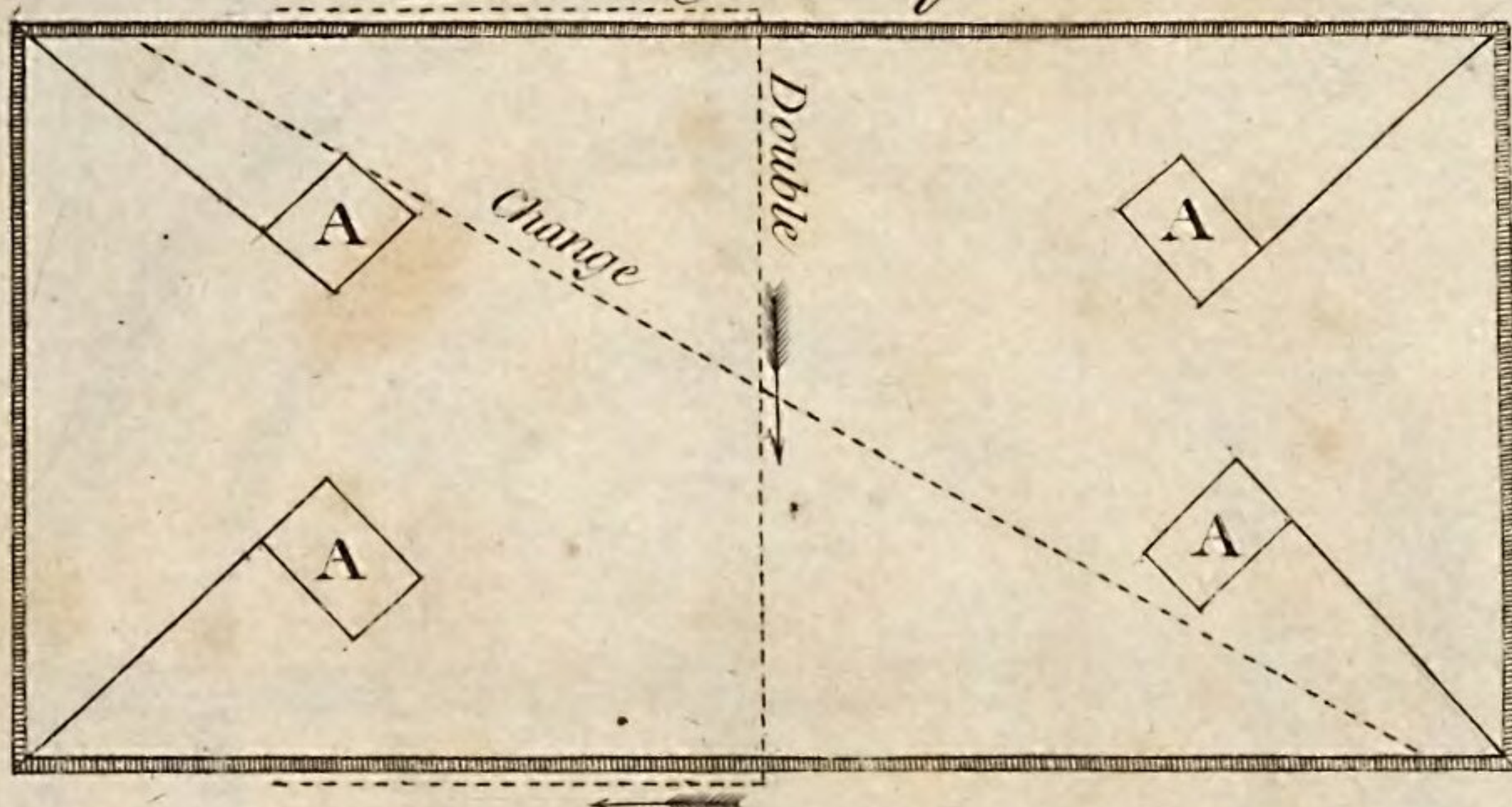
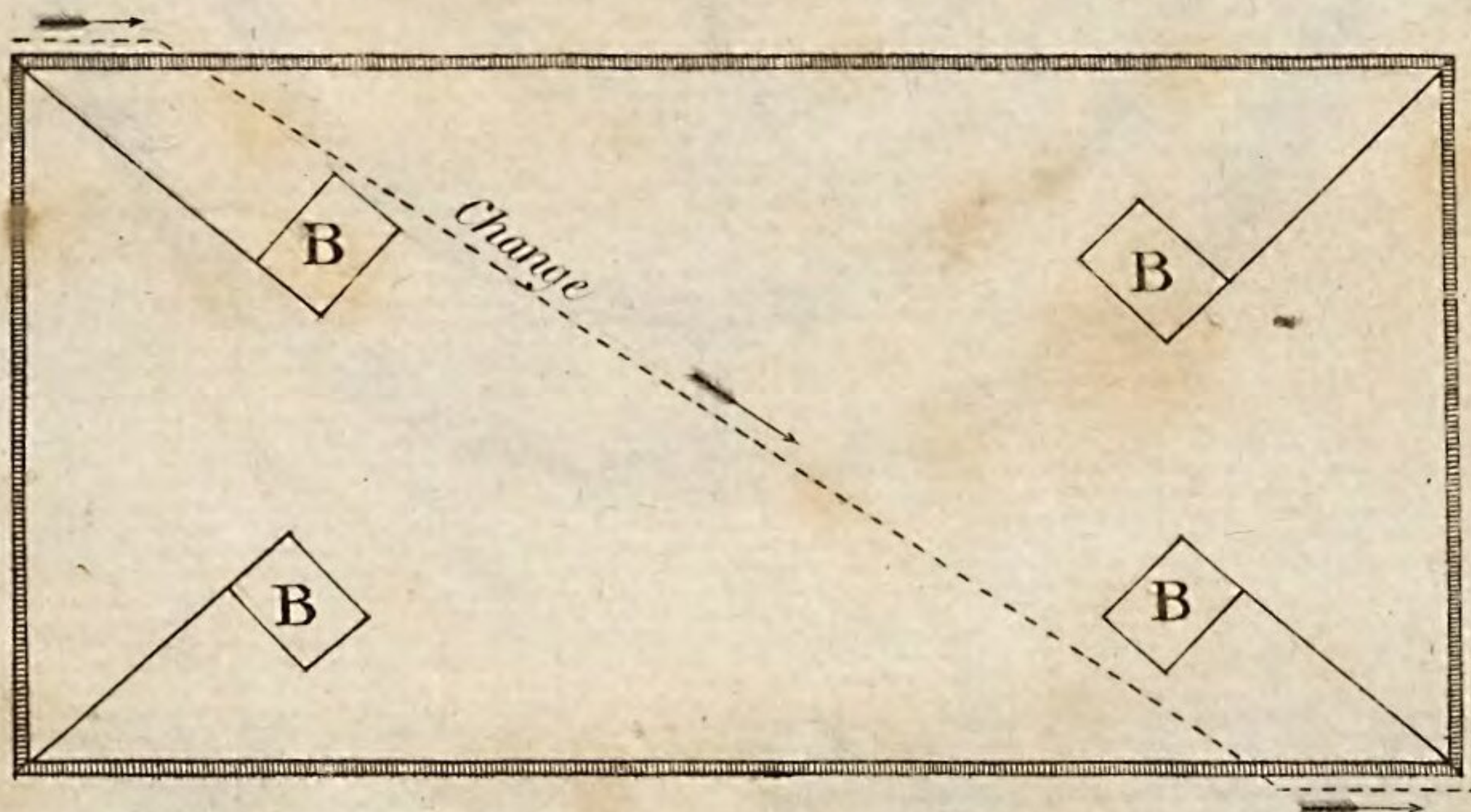
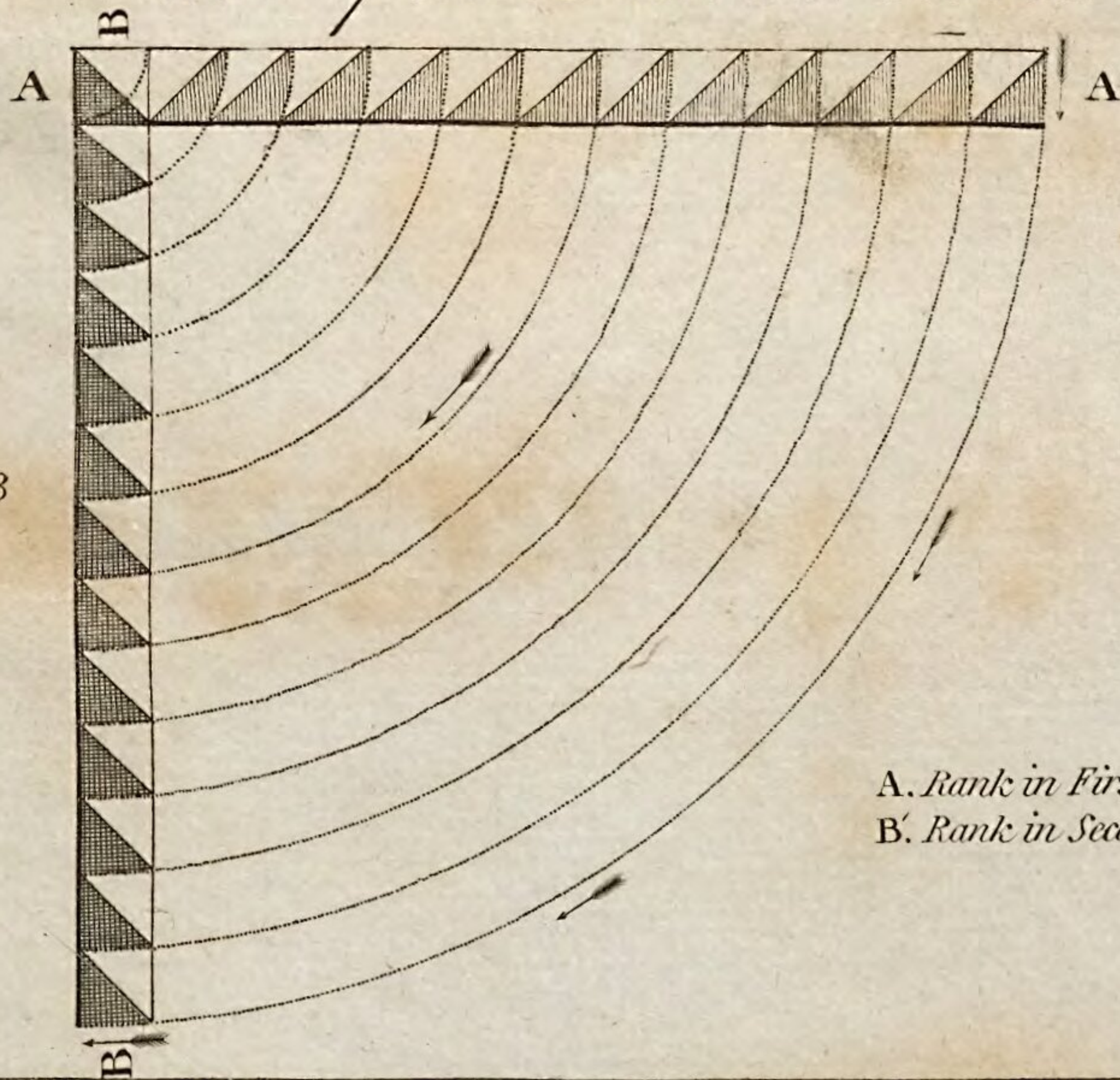


Fig. 2



Wheel of the Quarter Circle to the Right

Fig. 3

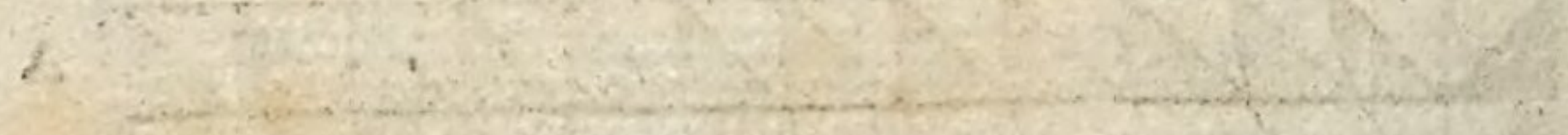


A. Rank in First Position.
B. Rank in Second Position.

Of the ...



Of the ...

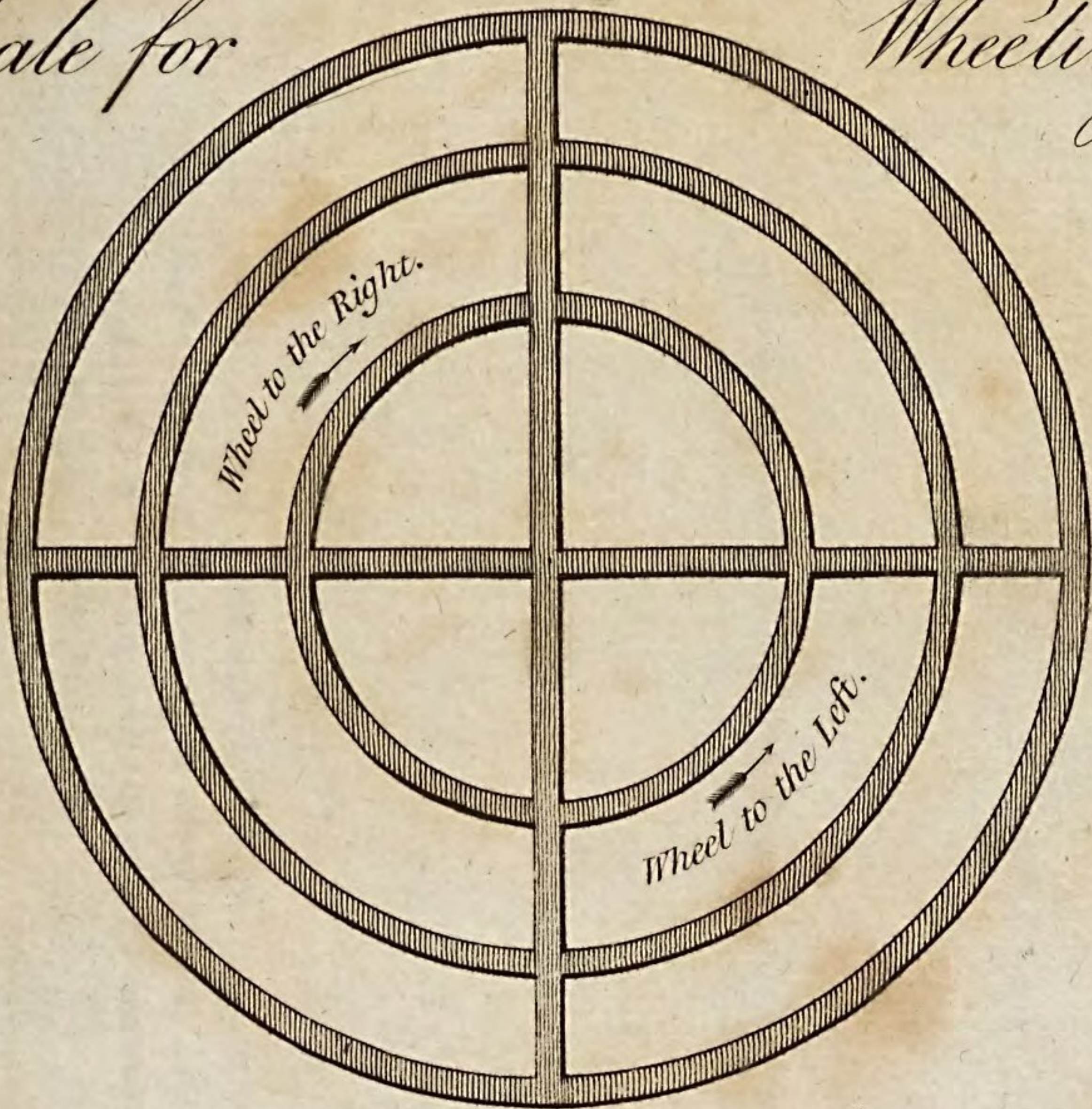


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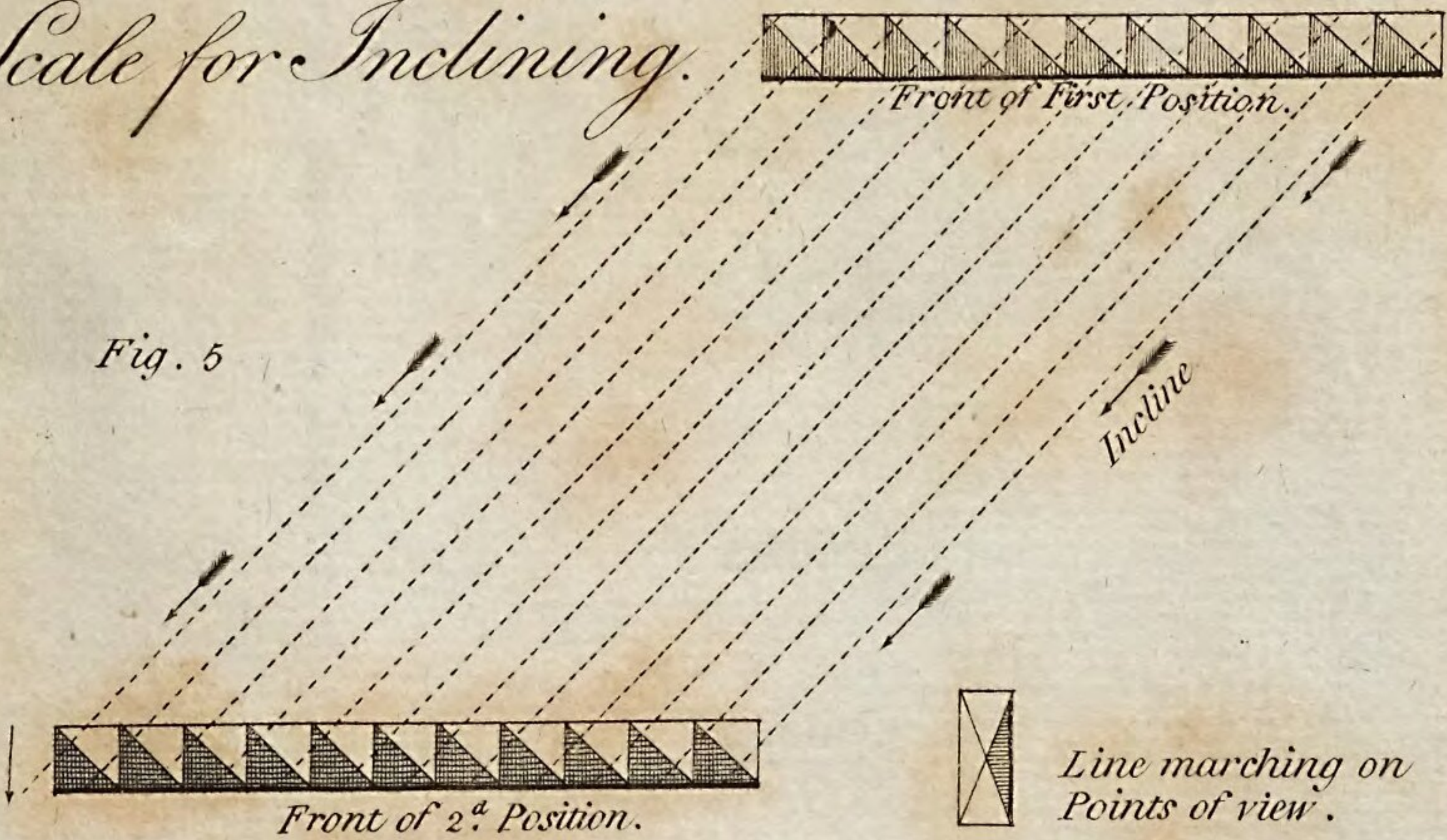
Scale for Wheeling.

Fig. 4

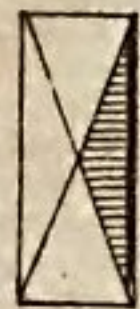


Scale for Inclining.

Fig. 5



Line marching on
Points of view.





*March in Open Column Right in front, & formation to
the Right on leading Squadron.*

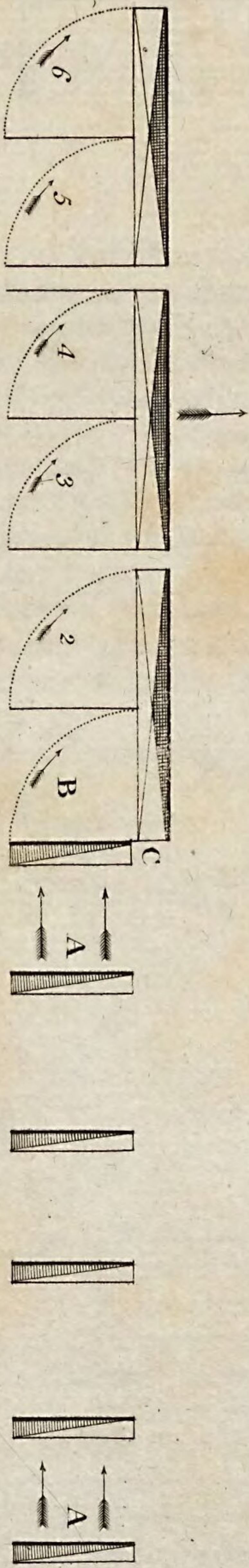
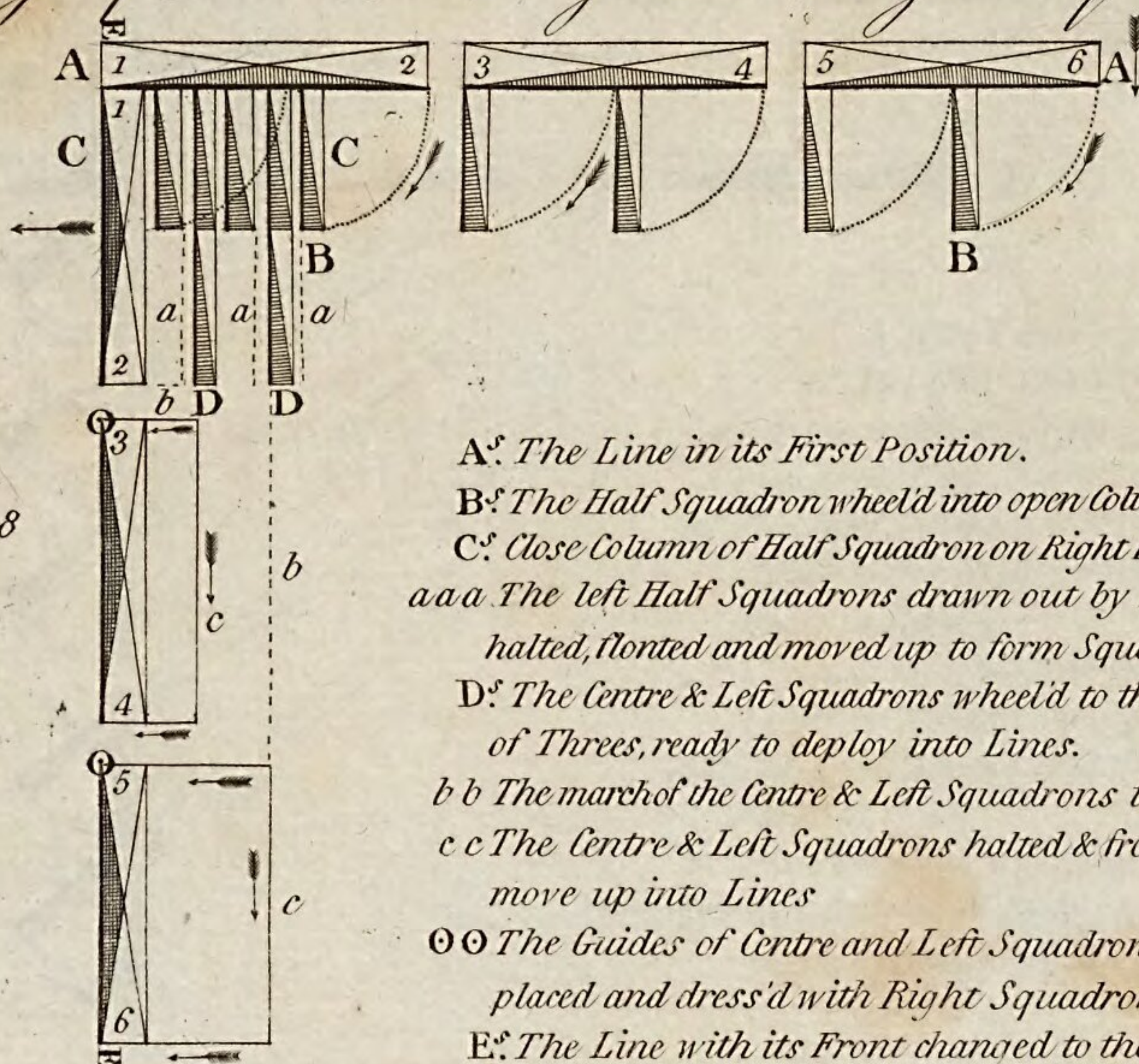


Fig. 7

- A. The open Column marching with its Right Half Squadron in front.
- B. The Right Half Squadron wheeling into line to the Right.
- 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 The Half Squadrons as they successively pass each other, wheeling into line to the Right.
- C. The Flanks of the Line.

Change of Front to Right on Right Squadron.

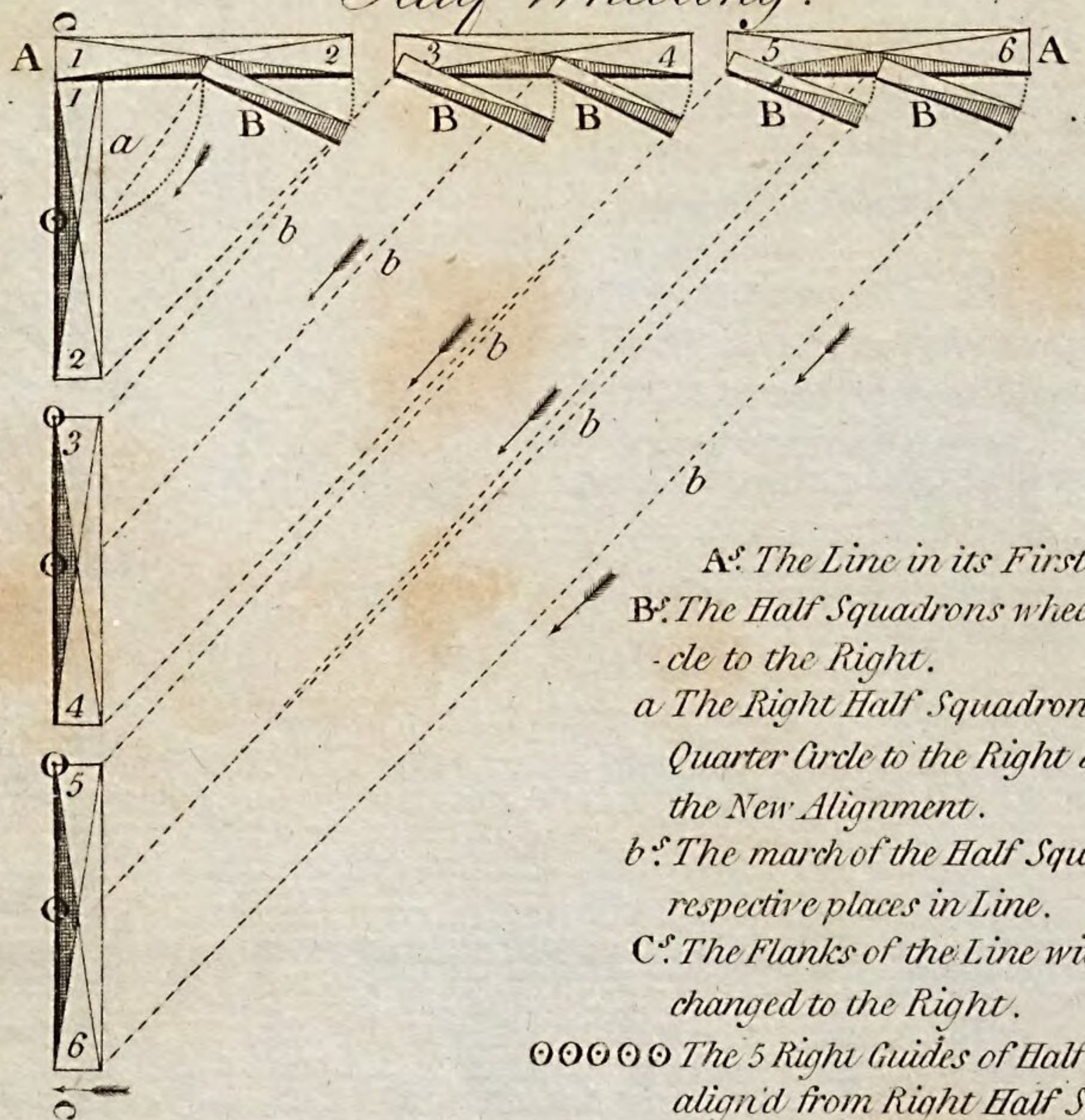
Fig. 8



- A^s The Line in its First Position.
 B^s The Half Squadron wheel'd into open Column to the Right.
 C^s Close Column of Half Squadron on Right Half Squadron.
 a a a The left Half Squadrons drawn out by Ranks of Threes, halted, flonted and moved up to form Squadrons.
 D^s The Centre & Left Squadrons wheel'd to the Left by Ranks of Threes, ready to deploy into Lines.
 b b The march of the Centre & Left Squadrons to the Flank.
 c c The Centre & Left Squadrons halted & fronted, ready to move up into Lines
 O O The Guides of Centre and Left Squadrons, previously placed and dress'd with Right Squadron.
 E^s The Line with its Front changed to the Right.

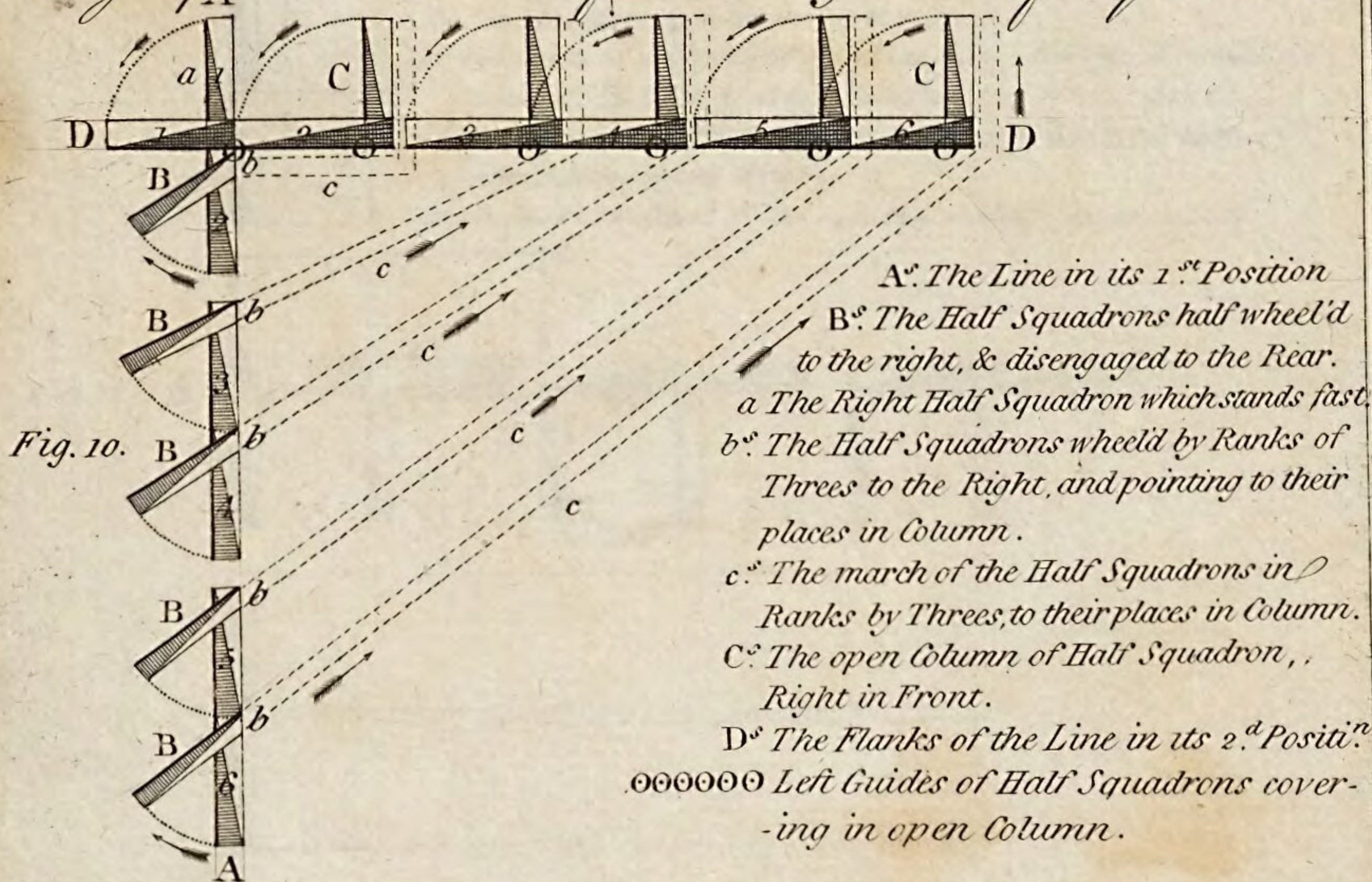
Change of Front to the Right, by operation of Half Wheeling.

Fig. 9

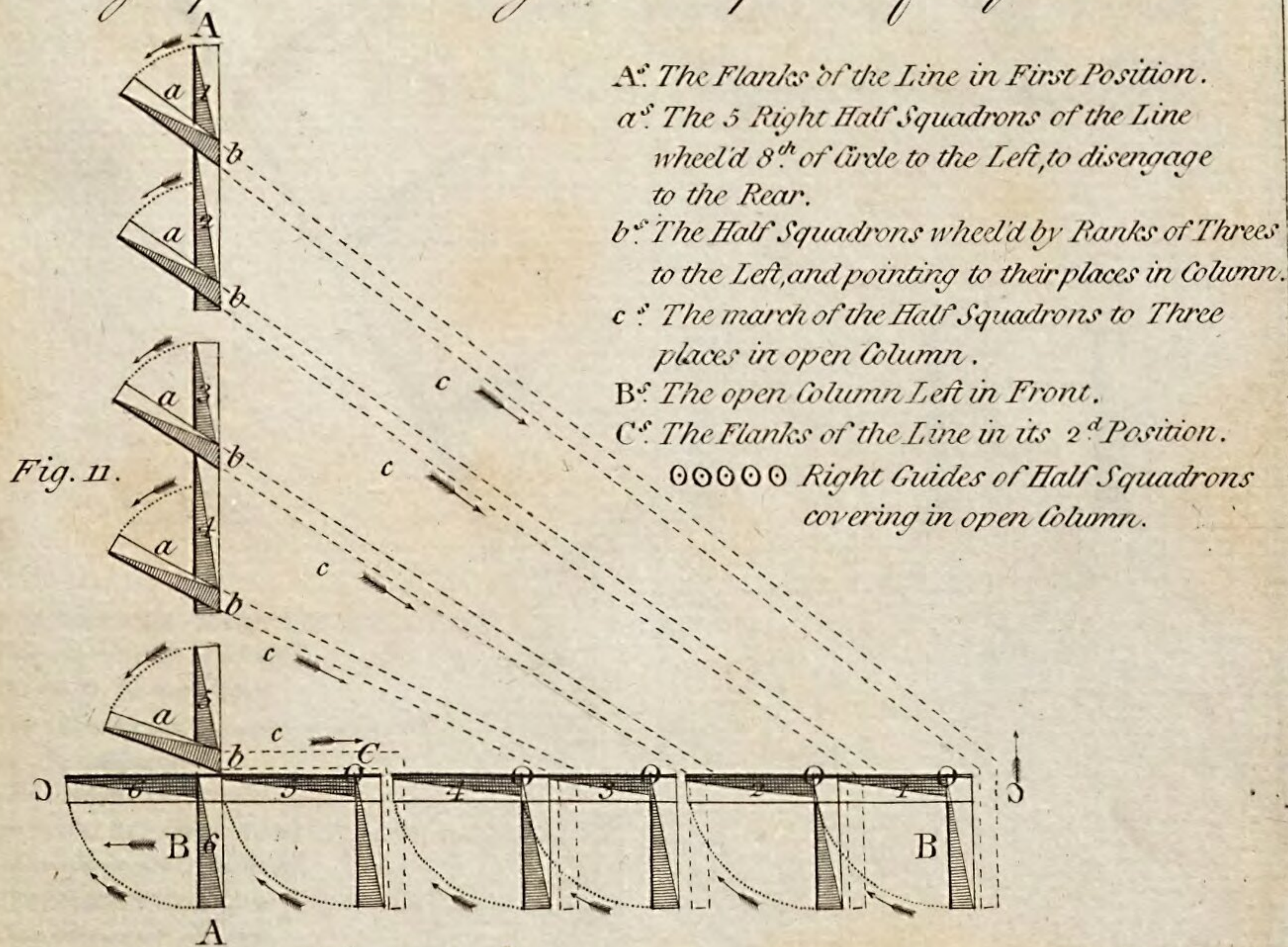


- A^s The Line in its First Position.
 B^s The Half Squadrons wheel'd 8th of a Circle to the Right.
 a The Right Half Squadron wheel'd the Quarter Circle to the Right & standing on the New Alignment.
 b^s The march of the Half Squadrons to their respective places in Line.
 C^s The Flanks of the Line with its Front changed to the Right.
 O O O O O The 5 Right Guides of Half Squadrons, align'd from Right Half Squadron.

Change of Front to the Left on Right Half Squadron.



Change of Front to Right on Left Half Squadron.



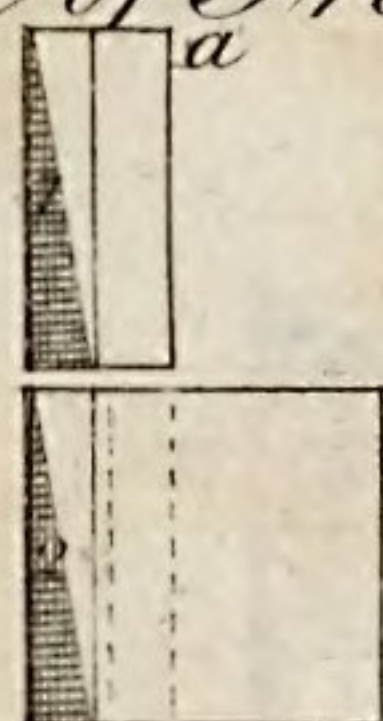
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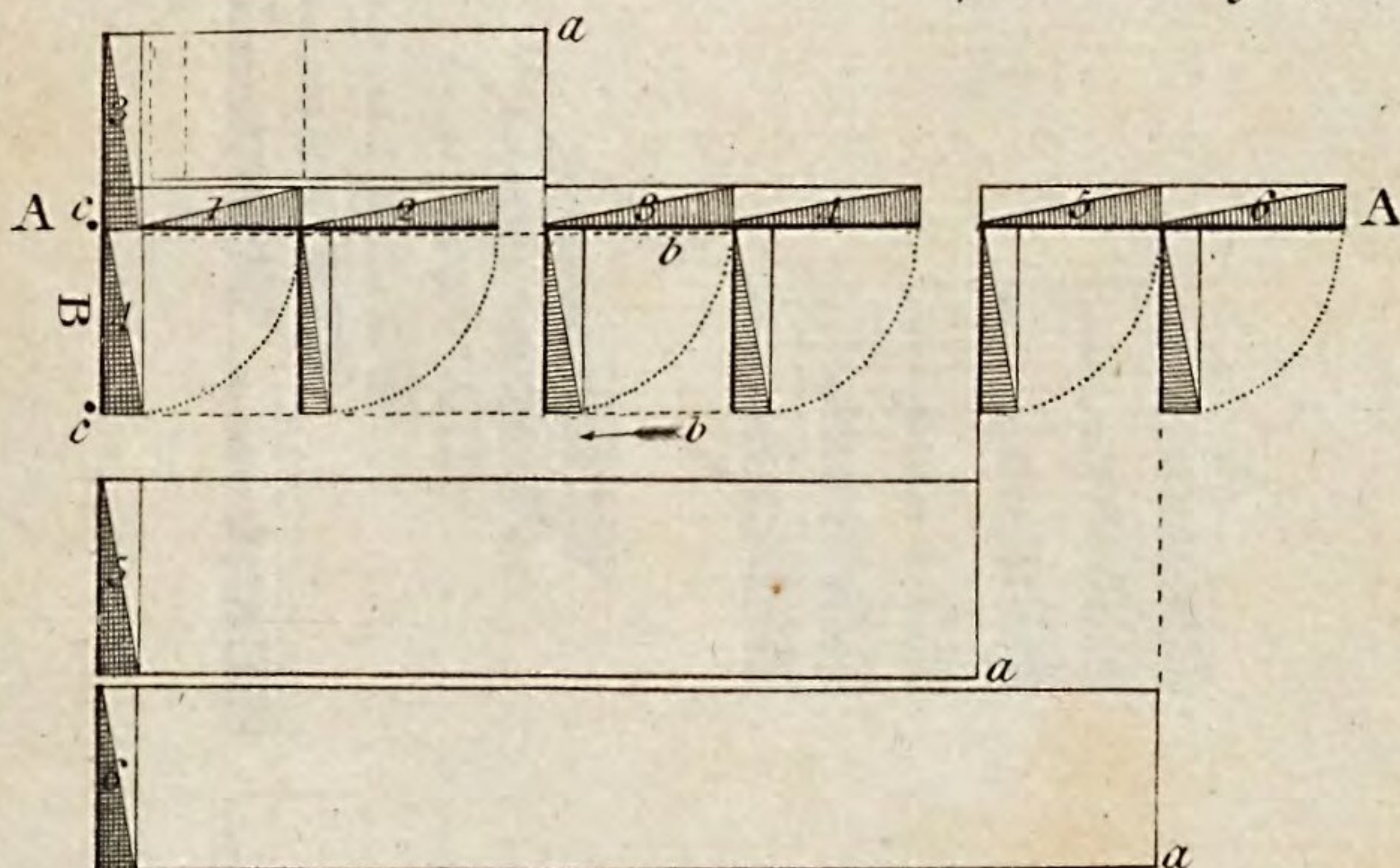
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Change of Front to Right on 4 Half Squadron. Plate 6.



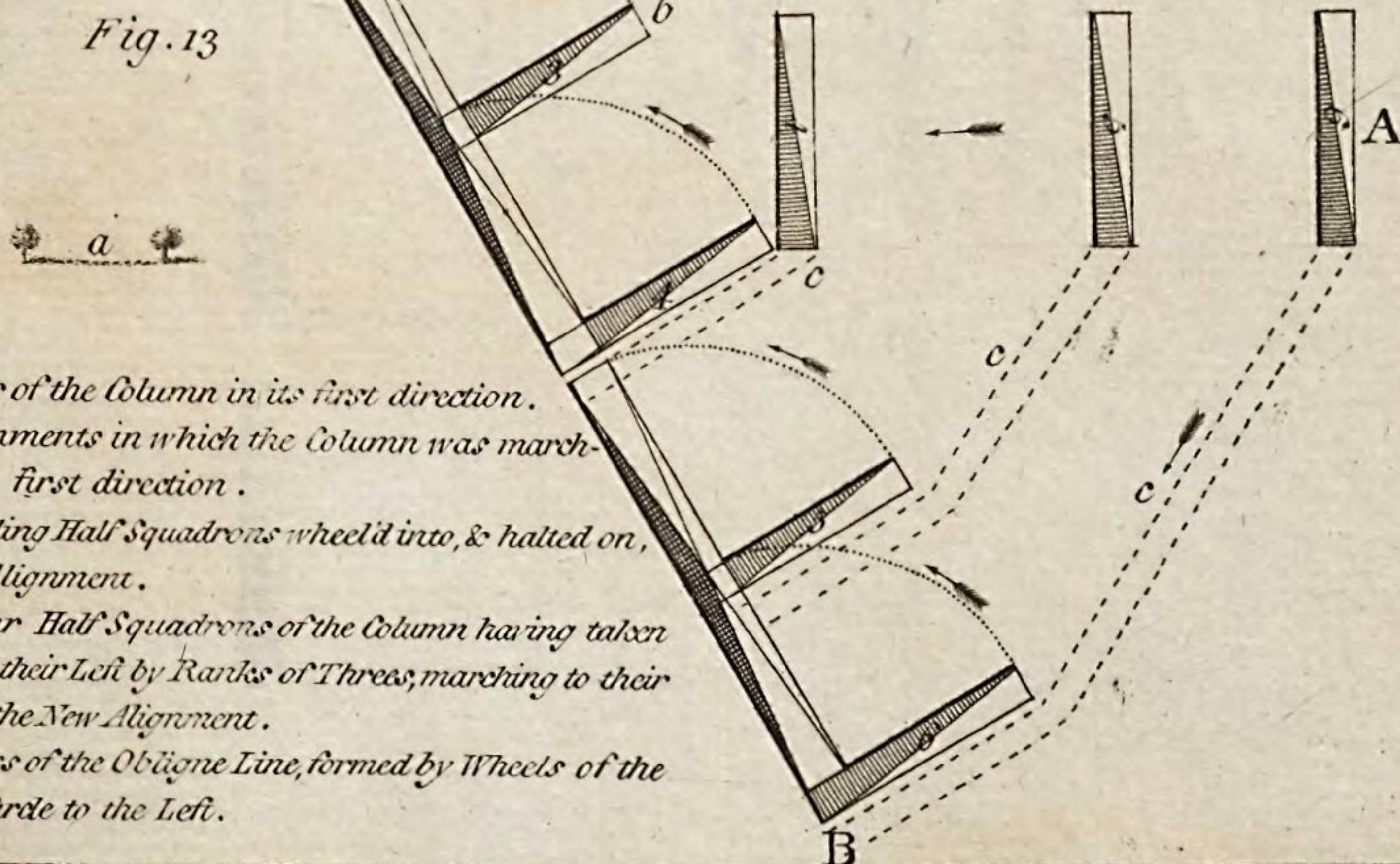
- A^s. The Flanks of the Line in its First Position.
 B. The Head of the open Column right in Front.
 a^s. The points to which the Half Squadrons deploy when wheel'd by Ranks of
 Threes to Right & Left, when they Halt, Front and move up with Line.
 b^s. The march of the 4th Half Squadron to its place in Line, when unmasked
 by the Half Squadrons in its Front.
 c^s. The two Flank Men of 4th Half Squadron marking its place in Line.

Fig. 12



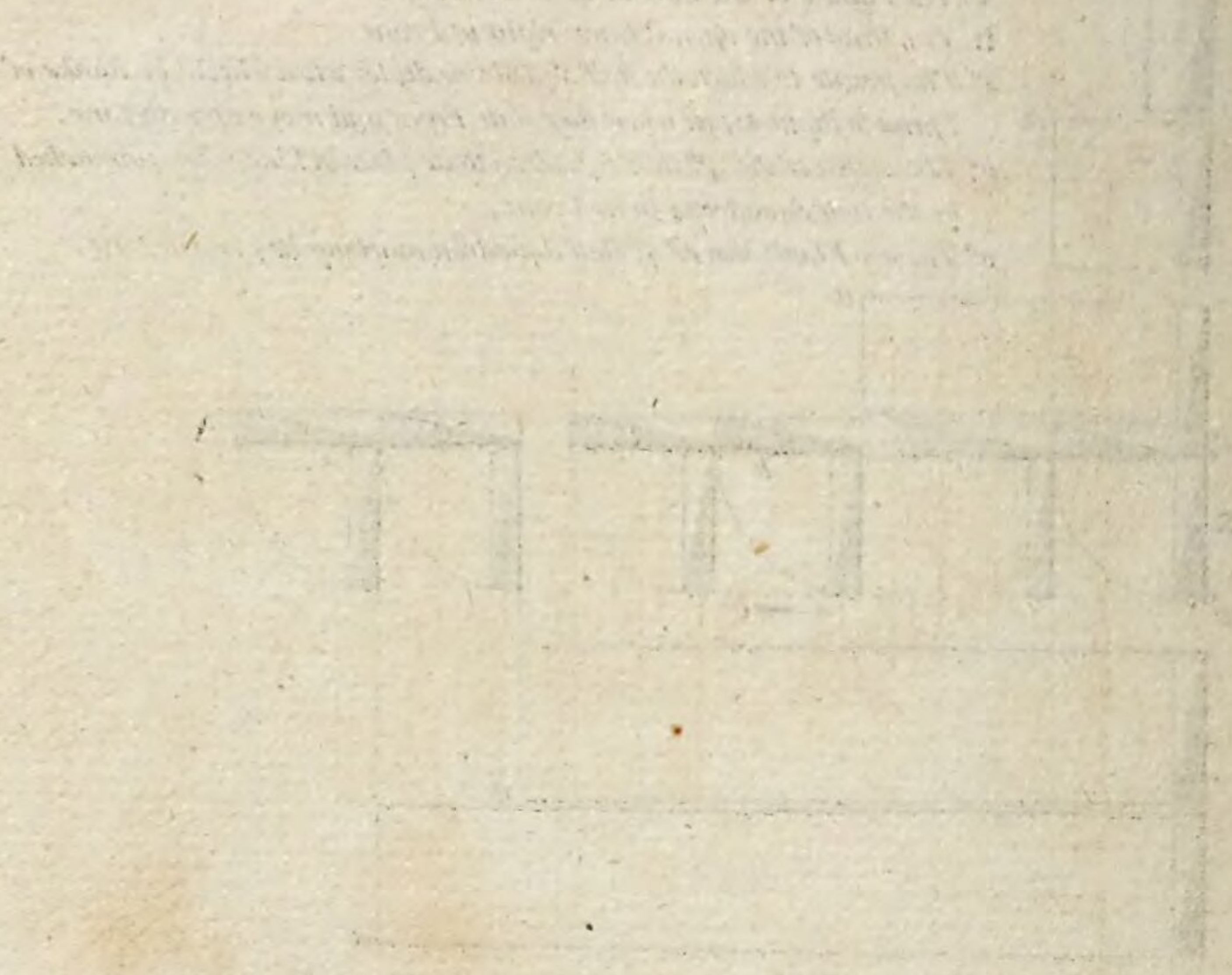
The Column marching Right in Front,
 to wheel into a New Alignment,
 & form Oblique Line to the Left.

Fig. 13



- A. The Rear of the Column in its first direction.
 a. The alignments in which the Column was march-
 ing in its first direction.
 b^s. The 3 leading Half Squadrons wheel'd into, & halted on,
 the New Alignment.
 c^s. The 3 Rear Half Squadrons of the Column having taken
 ground to their Left by Ranks of Threes, marching to their
 places in the New Alignment.
 B^s. The Flanks of the Oblique Line, formed by Wheels of the
 Quarter Circle to the Left.

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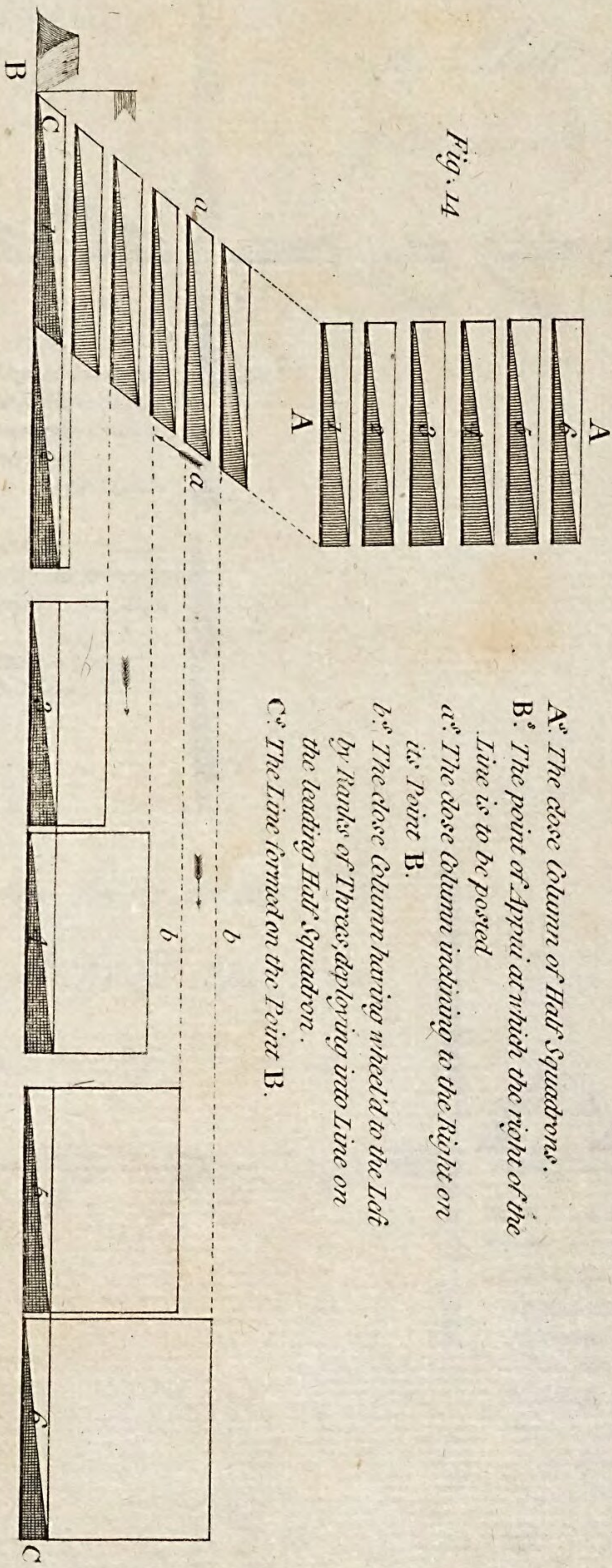
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The Close Column to form in Line, on a Point to the Right of its Front.

Fig. 14

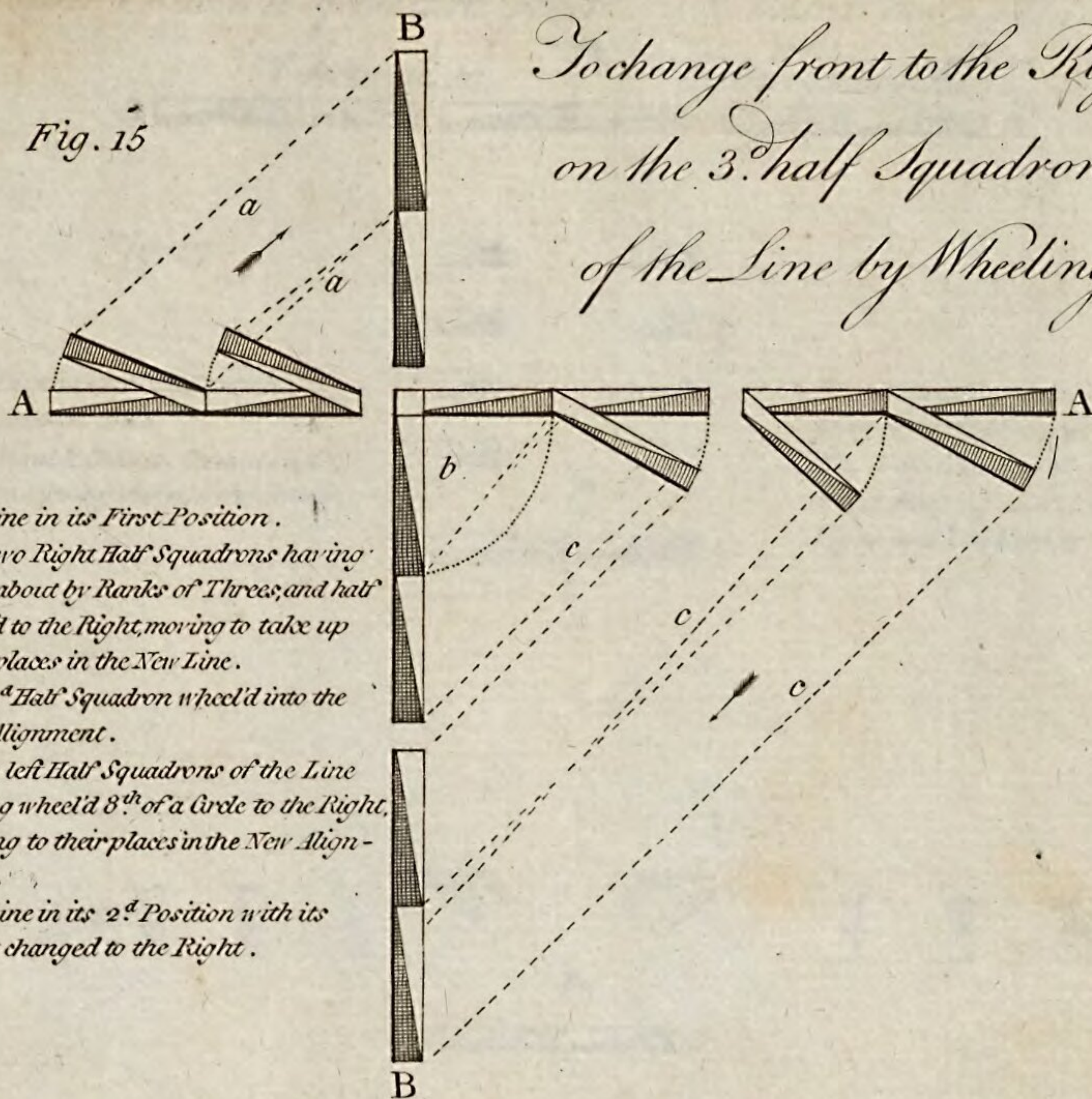


- A. The close Column of Half Squadrons.
- B. The point of Approach at which the right of the Line is to be posted
- a. The close Column inclining to the Right on its Point B.
- b. The close Column having wheeled to the Left by Ranks of Threes, deploying into Line on the leading Half Squadron.
- C. The Line formed on the Point B.

1875

Fig. 15

To change front to the Right
on the 3.^d Half Squadron
of the Line by Wheeling.



A^o The Line in its First Position.

a^o The two Right Half Squadrons having gone about by Ranks of Threes, and half wheel'd to the Right, moving to take up their places in the New Line.

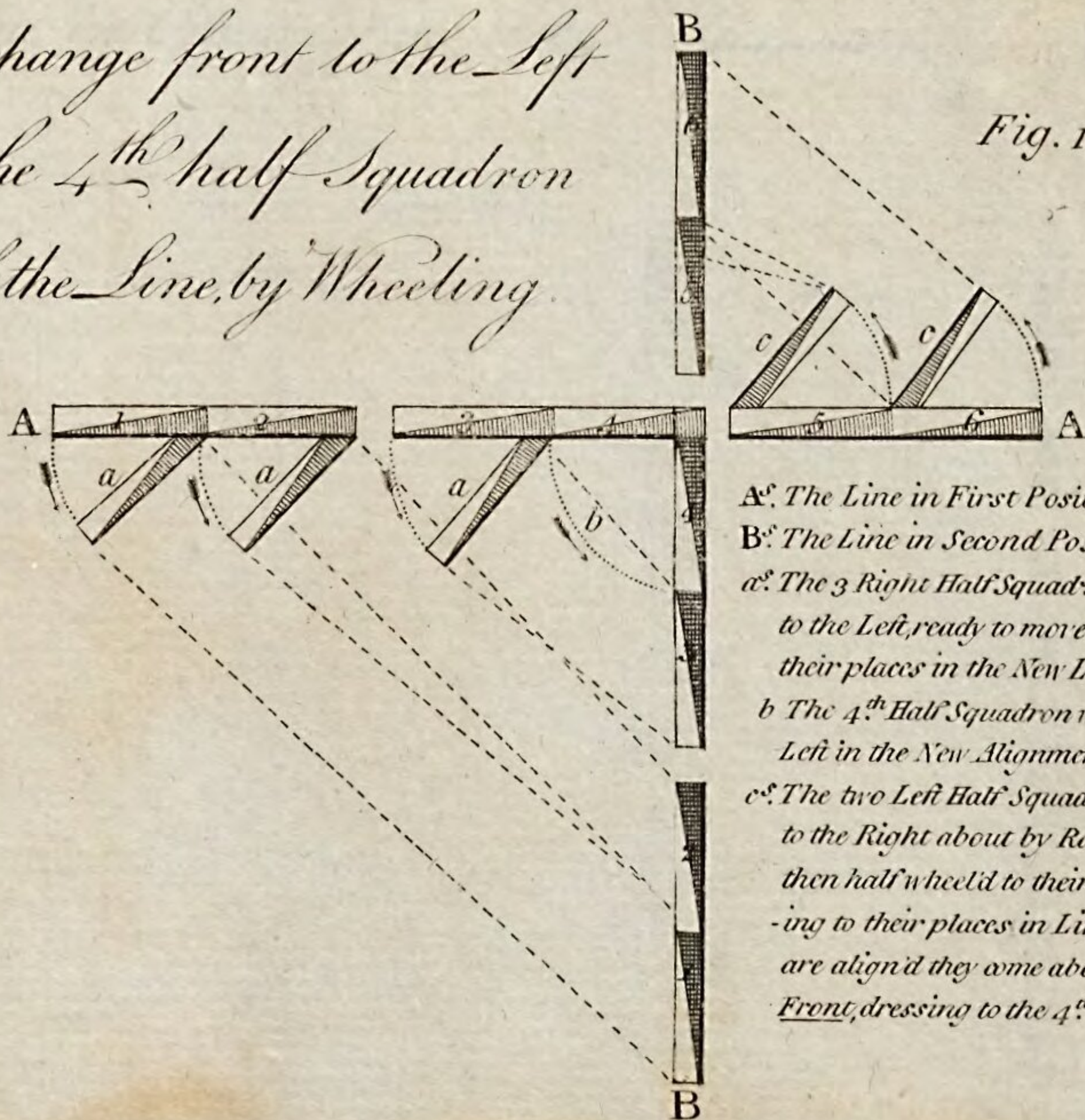
b The 3.^d Half Squadron wheel'd into the New Alignment.

c^o The 3 left Half Squadrons of the Line having wheel'd 8.th of a Circle to the Right, moving to their places in the New Alignment.

B^o The Line in its 2.^d Position with its Front changed to the Right.

To change front to the Left
on the 4.th Half Squadron
of the Line, by Wheeling.

Fig. 16



A^o The Line in First Position.

B^o The Line in Second Position.

a^o The 3 Right Half Squad^{rs} wheel'd half to the Left, ready to move down into their places in the New Line.

b The 4.th Half Squadron wheel'd to the Left in the New Alignment.

c^o The two Left Half Squadrons wheel'd to the Right about by Ranks of Threes, then half wheel'd to their Left, & pointing to their places in Line; when they are align'd they come about by the word Front, dressing to the 4.th Half Squadron.

Thompson Street Bridge

on the North Side of

the River

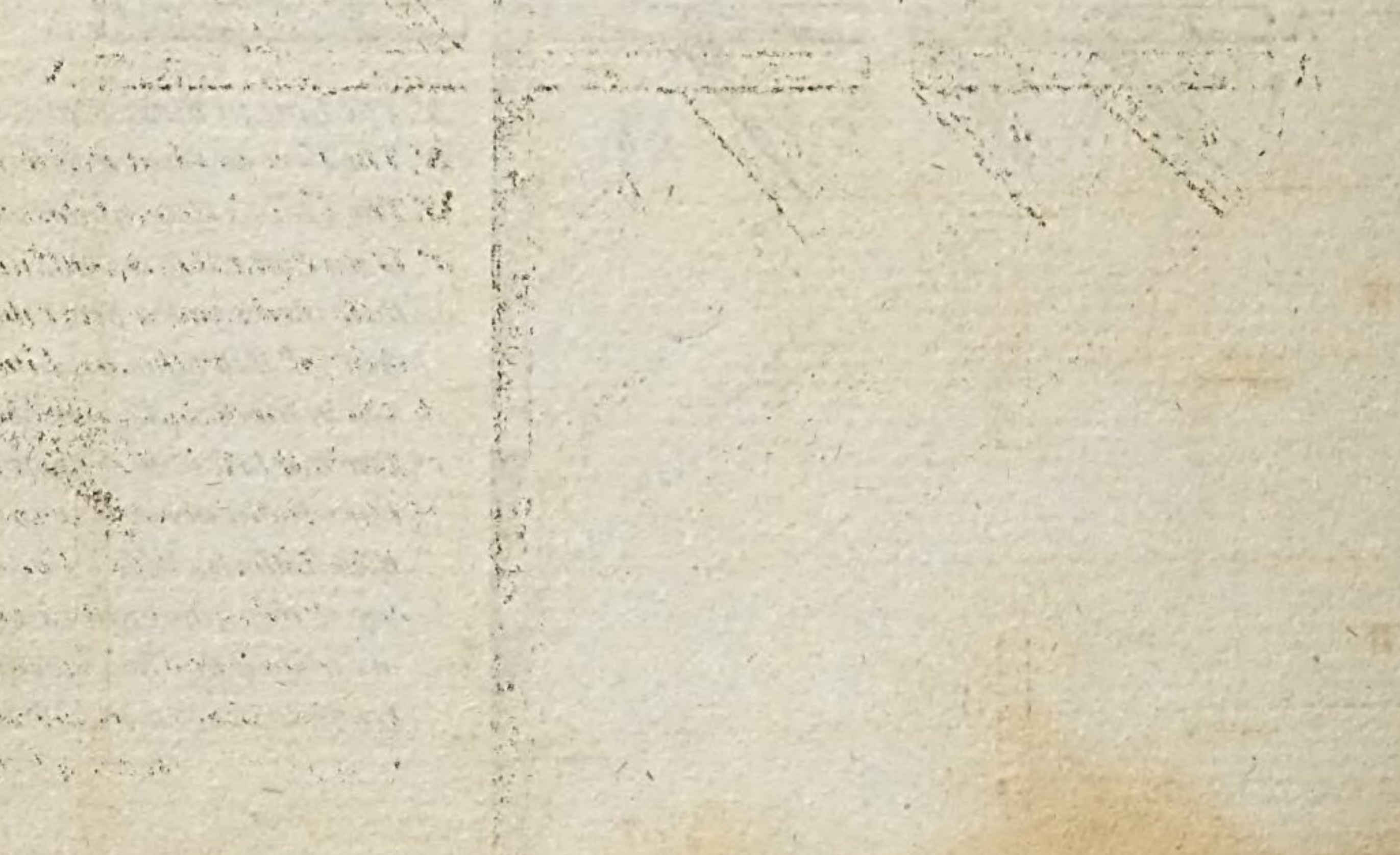


The bridge is a simple beam bridge with a single span. It is supported by two piers. The approach ramps are made of earth and are covered with wooden planks. The bridge is built on a foundation of stone masonry. The bridge is located on the North Side of the River.

Thompson Street Bridge

on the South Side of

the River



The bridge is a simple beam bridge with a single span. It is supported by two piers. The approach ramps are made of earth and are covered with wooden planks. The bridge is built on a foundation of stone masonry. The bridge is located on the South Side of the River.

Double Column of Attack from the Center & Enfilading Charge to both Flanks.

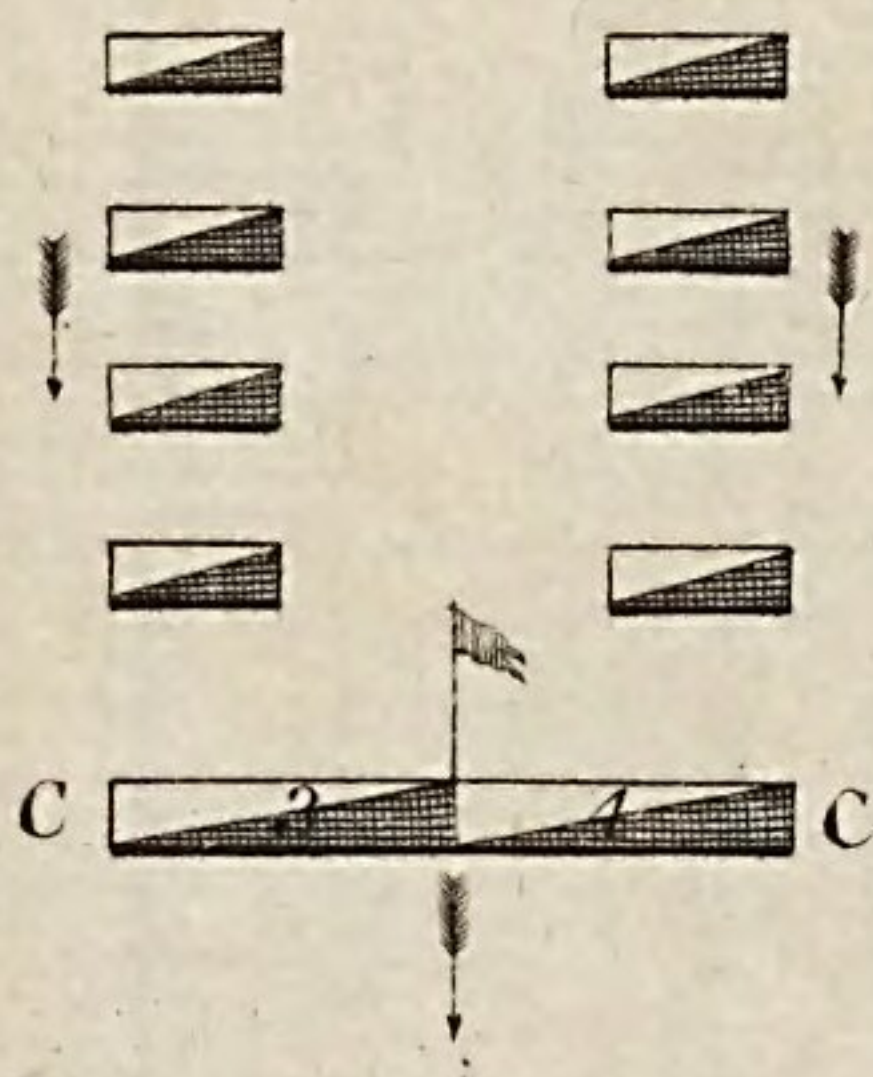


Fig. 17

A. The Line in its First Position.

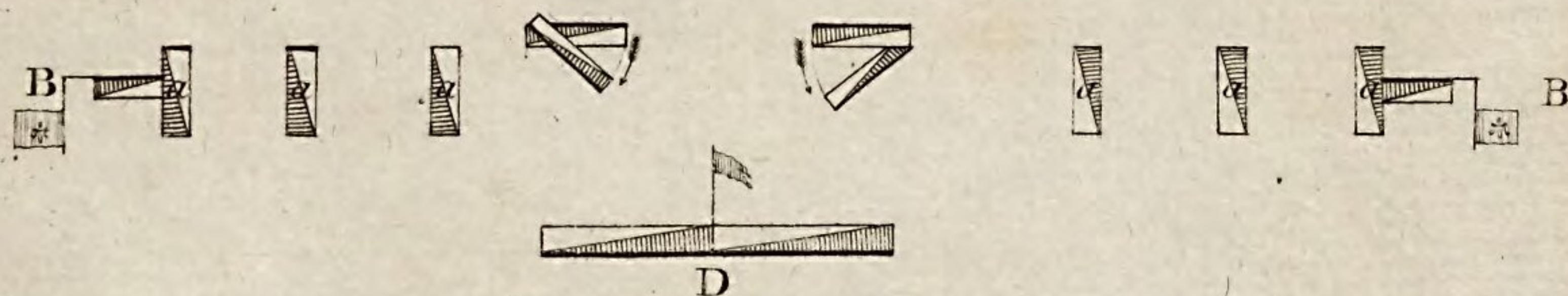
B. The Enemy's Line

C. The Double Column formed on the Centre moving down to the Attack.



D. The Centre Squadron after charging thro' the Enemy

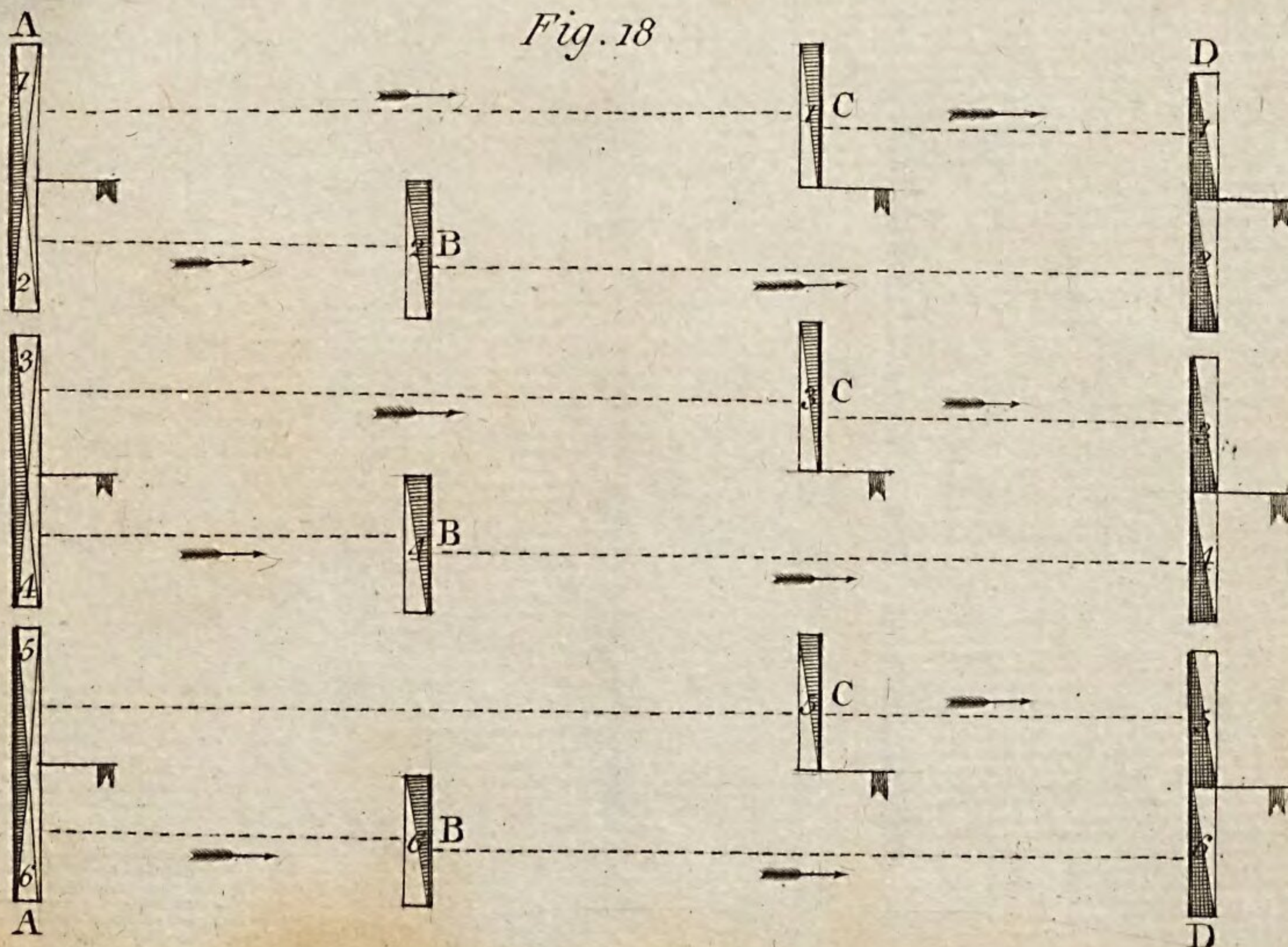
a. The Two Columns of Quarter Squadrons charging down the Enemy's Right and Left Flanks.



To Retreat in Open Ground, by Alternate half Squadrons.

Fig. 18

D. The Line formed by the Right Half Squadrons retreating, Halting and Fronting, in Line with the Left.

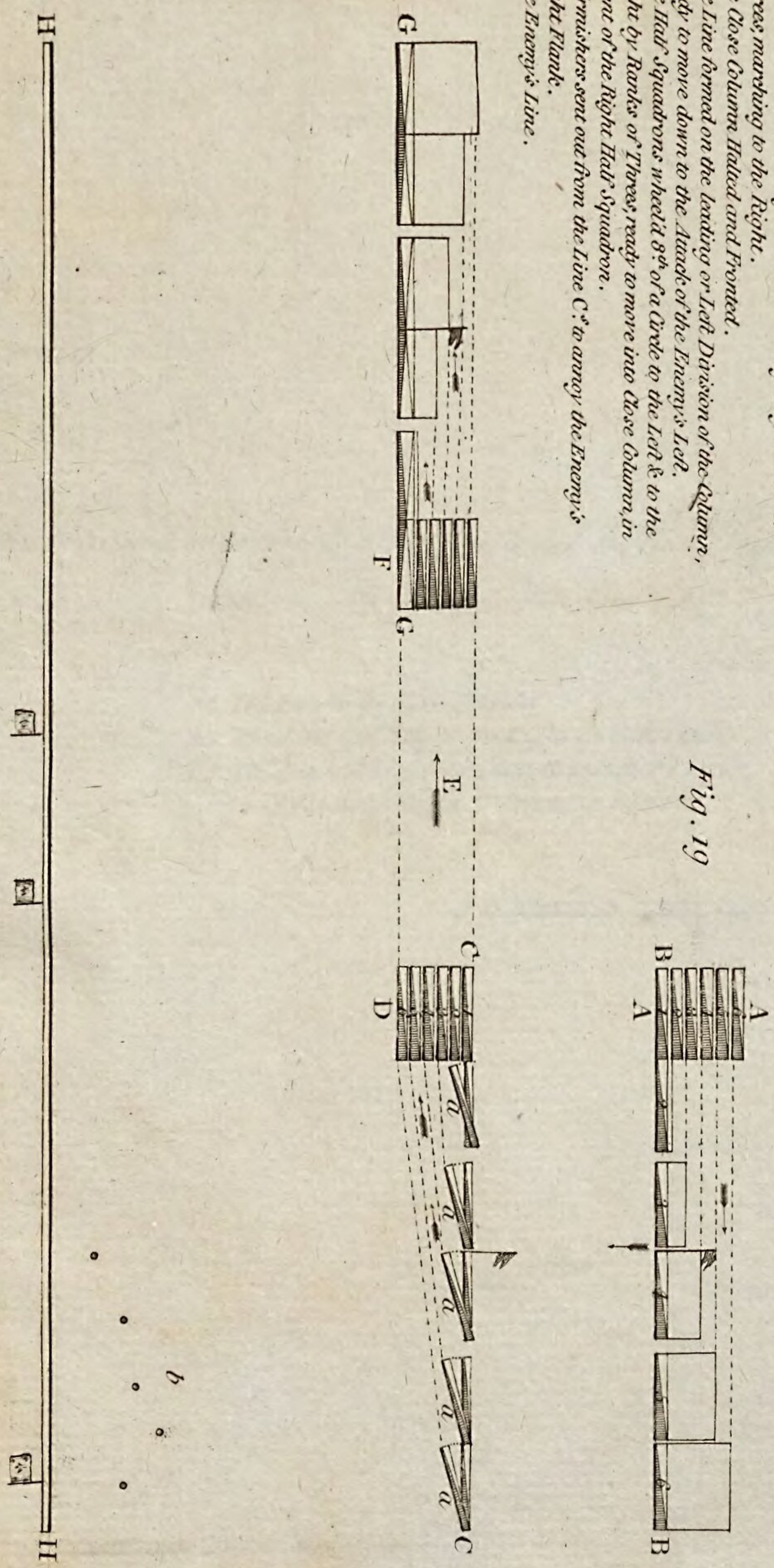


A. The Line previous to its Retreat.
B. The Left Half Squadrons retreated, having gone about by Rounds of Threes, Halting & Fronted.
C. The Right Half Squadrons retreated, Halting and Fronted.

*Threatning the Right of a body of Infantry, posted
& making the Attack on their Left.*

- A^s The Close Column Halted.
- B^s The Column deploy'd into Line on the Right Half Squadron.
- C^s The Line moved forward and threatening the Enemy's Right.
- D The Close Column formed Left in Front.
- E The Close Column having wheel'd to the Right by Ranks of Threes, marching to the Right.
- F The Close Column Halted and Fronted.
- G^s The Line formed on the landing or Left Division of the Column, ready to move down to the Attack of the Enemy's Left.
- a^s The Half Squadrons wheel'd 8th of a Circle to the Left & to the Right by Ranks of Threes, ready to move into Close Column, in Front of the Right Half Squadron.
- b. Skirmishers sent out from the Line C^s to annoy the Enemy's Right Flank.
- H^s The Enemy's Line.

Fig. 19



*A Line of Cavalry to take Ground to the Right & Front
by an Echelon Movement.*

A^o The Line in its First Position.

B^o The Line inclining to the Right in Echelon.

C^o The Line after having taken Ground to Flank
and Front, brought to its proper Front.

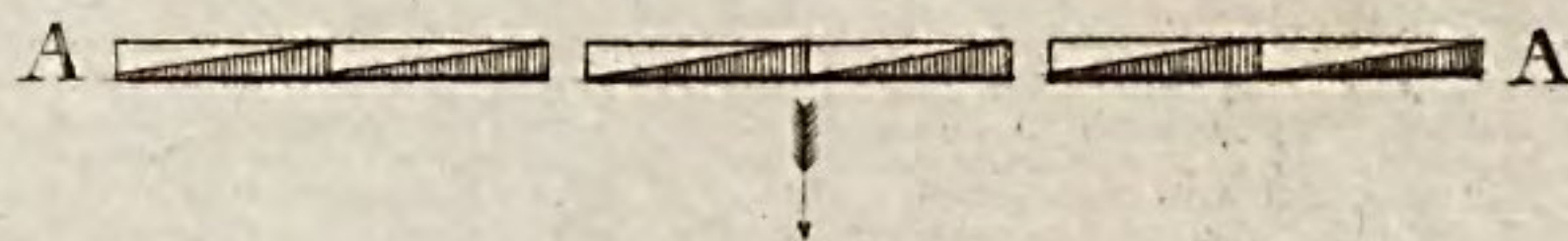
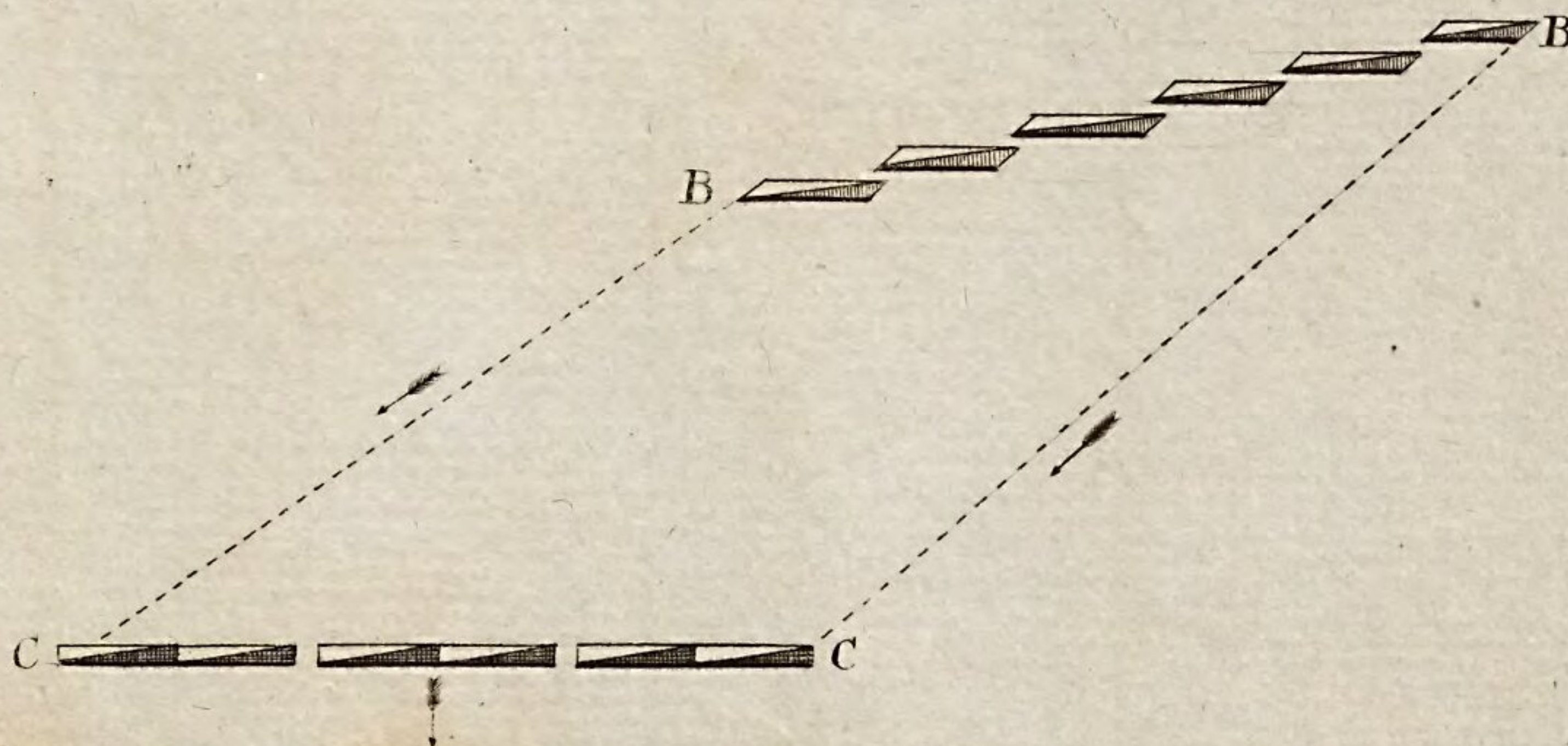


Fig. 20



Neville, L.

A Treatise On The Discipline Of Light Cavalry With Annexed Plates

London 1796

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urn:nbn:de:bvb:12-bsb11766038-5